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## OPINION METER

**This week's poll:**  
**Do you plan to drop by the Taste of the Marianas anytime this month?**

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to cast your vote.

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## Dire economy threatens people's health

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» **From only 10K clients three years ago, Medicaid now has 15K**

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

*Editor's Note: In this series of articles that began Monday, May 9, 2011, the Saipan Tribune examines the effects of the depressed economy on the islands' remaining industry, tourism, and the wider impact it is having on the lives of island residents.*

**E**conomic hardship not only threatens the financial stability of families but also puts at risk the health condition of thousands of CNMI residents who have opted to set aside their well-being just to cope with financial difficulties.



"One of the real clear effects of the downturn of economy is people are giving up their health insurance because they need to pay their utility bills, car loans, and other obligations," said Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez.

This disheartening trend, Villagomez said, is not because people don't care about their health, "but they need to prioritize their needs and there are certain things for them that are more critical than to have health insurance."



Villagomez

"Mostly, those keeping their insurance are sick people," he added.

With hundreds of people dropping their health insurance, this has resulted in a dramatic increase of clients in many of the department's programs such as Medicaid, Medicare, and medical referral.

### More clients

Three years ago, Villagomez said, the Medicaid program only had more than 10,000 clients; this has significantly jumped to over 15,000 this year.

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## Fitial: DHS rule may be out this month or June

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said yesterday that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security could issue the transitional worker regulations either this month or in early June, based on information he received from DHS officials.

"But it's not going to be after June," Fitial told reporters yesterday after signing into laws two measures in his office yesterday afternoon.

There are only six months left before Nov. 27, 2011, when the CNMI-issued umbrella permits expire.

DHS failed to meet its self-imposed deadline of March 2011 to issue the

See **DHS** on **Page 4**



Fitial

## Sichuan Airlines touches down on Saipan



By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
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REPORTER

China-based Sichuan Airlines made its inaugural flight to Saipan at 4:40am yesterday, bringing with it 236 passen-

gers from Shanghai who will be staying on Saipan and/or Tinian for a few days.

Another Sichuan Airlines flight will touch down at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at 2:40am

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HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
Alanai'a dance group's Kristin Hofschneider, left, and her sister Kimberly, right, greet Sichuan Airlines passengers with shell leis at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport early yesterday morning.



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# Local

## Regents weigh next step to fill NMC presidency

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

It's been more than two weeks since the last candidate for Northern Marianas College president, Dr. Jeff Armstrong, withdrew his application and rejected the Board of Regents' offer but the board has yet to come up with plans on what to do next.

Board chair Juan T. Lizama, along with five other regents, agreed yesterday to discuss the presidential search when the board continues its executive session today.

"[With] the fact that Dr. Armstrong is no longer a candidate, obviously the question

everyone is curious to know is, who's next and what's next? We're working hard here to figure out what is going to be the next step. ... We will know what...action to take after [today's] meeting," said Lizama.

Prior to the start of yesterday's meeting, the board had a short working session where Lizama said that "interesting information" was brought to the table by individual members. He did not elaborate.

The board focused yesterday's discussion on accreditation updates from interim president Lorraine Cabrera and her leadership team. The group also welcomed newly confirmed

member William Torres.

NMC, which is still awaiting a decision on its accreditation status, has had no permanent president since the departure of Dr. Carmen Fernandez in January last year.

The board has made two attempts to fill the position but failed when all three top candidates for the post rejected and withdrew their applications at the last minute. The latest was Armstrong, the third and last pick, who junked the board's offer after initially expressing interest in the position.

"We're very hopeful that certain actions will be finalized. Just keep your fingers crossed

and pray for us," said Lizama during yesterday's meeting.

The Association of Community College Trustees received a total of 31 applications for the NMC presidency. Seven of them were endorsed to the board after they received the highest rating based on ACCT standards and criteria. From seven, the choices were trimmed to three—who all decided to later withdraw their applications.

NMC offers an \$80,000 per annum salary to its president and an \$800 monthly housing allowance. The contract is valid for two years and can be terminated only with cause.

## Griffin is new NMC faculty senate president

### »Cites two major faculty concerns: accreditation, long awaited pay raise

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

Dr. John Griffin has been named the new president of the Northern Marianas College faculty senate, replacing Larry Lee whose term expired Friday.

Griffin is the college's business department chairperson and sits as honorary member of the Board of Regents.

In an election held Friday, Griffin was unanimously chosen by the nine members of the faculty senate council. His term expires in May 2012.

On his first day of representing the faculty senate, Griffin cited two major concerns among faculty members: accreditation and the long awaited pay hike.

"Accreditation is our major concern for now. Also, we



Griffin

haven't had a pay raise since 1994 and costs have gone up. Cost of living has gone up

significantly since 1994 but salaries have not followed suit. We're looking at how we can fix the situation in terms of pay raise," Griffin told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

He also vowed to help NMC regain its accreditation. "You can also expect me to enhance the faculty of the college by seeking out people who are highly qualified for faculty positions. I will also look for areas that will help reduce spending in order to save some money for

the college because budget has been cut," he said.

The college has 83 faculty members: 34 instructional or those employed as full-time instructors and 49 non-instructional members. It also has about 40 adjunct instructors this school year.

Citing the college's limited budget, Griffin favors the hiring of more adjunct instructors to save money for NMC. "Across America, roughly 70 percent in faculty universities and colleges are adjuncts because it costs less. We will probably have to follow suit and use more adjuncts because of the economic circumstances that we're in."

Griffin believes that employing more adjuncts could save up to 40 percent in personnel cost for NMC.

## Fitial signs law giving more powers to court marshals

### »Governor also signs local law on designation of 'acting Saipan mayor'

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed a public law yesterday giving more powers to court marshals, including authorizing them to make arrests, serve processes and warrants, and carry a firearm just like police officers.

At the same time, the governor signed a local law designating the Saipan Municipal Council chairperson to be the acting Saipan mayor when the latter is off-island. In the absence of the council chairperson, the acting mayor will be the council's vice chairperson.

Fitial signed House Bill 17-28, House Substitute 1, Senate Substitute 1, which pertains to the court marshals, into Public Law 17-40.

The new law empowers and defines the authority, duties, responsibilities and functions of the Marshal Service Division of the CNMI Judicial Branch.

Fitial vetoed a previous bill

with the same intent, Senate Bill 17-16, because of concerns that the new measure now addresses.

"This measure will allow the Judiciary to serve jury summons and other court processes instead of depending on the Department of Public Safety, which is the current procedure," Fitial said.

The newly signed P.L. 17-40 also allows the Marshal Services Division to undergo proper training so as to ensure the safety of justices, judges, and staff of the Judiciary while maintaining peace in the courthouse, Fitial added.

Rep. Rafael Demapan (Cov-Saipan), author of the bill, said he wanted to make sure that his bill "makes its final journey" in consultation with stakeholders.

Chief Justice Miguel Demapan, Justice Alex Castro, and Judge Robert Naraja, along with Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos and House members led by Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) witnessed the bill signing on Capital Hill.

Fitial said there are times when more than 100 summonses need to be served, which could be a huge task for police officers who also have to perform other functions such as ensuring public safety.

Tracy Guerrero, the director of Courts, said serving summonses is a daunting task and the Marshal Service Division could relieve DPS of this function.

Right now, there are only seven personnel under the Marshal Service Division, Guerrero said.

### 'Acting mayor'

Fitial also signed a local bill into a local law, pertaining to the designation of an acting mayor when the Saipan mayor is off-island.

House Local Bill 17-6, Draft 2, introduced by Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogunoro (Cov-Saipan), is now Saipan Local Law 17-8.

The new local law follows the constitutional requirement that if the governor is physically absent

from the CNMI, the lieutenant governor becomes acting governor. If the lieutenant governor is also absent from the CNMI or unavailable, the acting governor will be the Senate president.

By applying this same rule, the Saipan Municipal Council chairperson becomes the acting mayor when the Saipan mayor is physically absent from Saipan. In the absence of the council chair, then the vice chair becomes acting Saipan mayor.

If the presiding officer of the council is also absent, then the acting Saipan mayor shall be the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation presiding officer.

Saipan Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho, during the signing, cited an instance when the Saipan mayor designated a non-elected official to serve as acting mayor.

Camacho said the signing of a new local law will ensure that protocol is followed. Besides Camacho, other council members were also present including Eric Demapan.



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority  
*Tourism is everybody's business.*

May is Tourism Month in the Northern Marianas, and throughout the month Tourism Tuesday features your opinions on timely tourism topics.

May marks the 13th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden, held every Saturday throughout the month from 6-10 p.m. at American Memorial Park and sponsored by the Marianas Visitors Authority in partnership with the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands.

### What do you enjoy most about the Taste of the Marianas?

"It's fun. There's good food, and you can hang out with your friends."

Victoria Chenesova, center, with friends



"Tourism went down, but the CNMI has events like this and we can tell tourists about this happy event. It is good for tourism. It's even good for local people; they can meet friends here. Looks good and taste good—a very happy event!"

Tsuyoshi Ikejiri

"I like the beer garden and the music—a good atmosphere."

Craig Froehlick, showing his winning certificate from the Hotdog Eating Competition, with family and friends



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# New LEAC rate to appear in June billing, says Malae

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

The new leveled energy adjustment clause rate approved last month will not appear in customer's bills until June 2011, said Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Abe Utu Malae yesterday.

Although the Commonwealth

Public Utilities Commission approved the LEAC rate increase on April 15 and it was supposed to take effect on April 16, Malae said that the commission only came up with its written order on Friday.

"On May 5, the CPUC issued its long awaited order to CUC that raises the LEAC to cover the continual increases in cost

of diesel fuel. The LEAC increase...becomes effective retroactively to April 16, 2011, and will not appear in customer's bills until June 2011," Malae told *Saipan Tribune*.

The new LEAC charge increases the rate from \$0.28125 to \$0.34426 per kilowatt-hour. It is composed of fuel and lube oil, \$0.32691 per kWh; volatility allowance, \$0.01635 per kWh; and regulatory/technical support, \$0.00100 per kWh.

Based on its one-page order, the commission indicated that rate element revenues shall be solely for the specific purposes authorized by the commission.

Malae said the order also instructs CUC and the commission's consultant, Georgetown Consulting, to petition the com-

mission for a LEAC adjustment should the price of diesel fuel exceed \$3.50 a gallon per month or if it falls below \$3.20 a gallon per month.

Based on the new LEAC rate, an average residential customer consumption of 500 kWh per month will see an increase in their billing from \$149 to \$180—a \$31 increase.

The new LEAC charge is a 22-percent increase on the current rate of \$0.28125. The last time the LEAC rate was adjusted was in January 2011, when it went up from \$0.2446 per kWh to \$0.28125 per kWh—a 14.6 percent hike.

The highest LEAC charge, amounting to \$0.413 per kWh, occurred in July 2008.

LEAC charges comprise 75

to 80 percent of customers' total monthly bills.

CUC consultant economists.com earlier pointed out that world oil and gasoline prices have increased 59 percent since September 2010—from \$2.13 a gallon to \$3.38 a gallon last April—requiring this LEAC rate hike.

Besides the LEAC adjustment, CPUC also approved the establishment of a new \$5 per kWh standby charge, a new streetlighting tariff, and a new municipal pumping rate for the CUC to generate additional revenue. It instructed CUC to meter all its water and wastewater facilities by Dec. 31, 2011.

Given the CNMI's dire economy, the commission said it is also essential that the electric

division's low-income customers be provided with basic electric consumption. The commission approved the creation of a new residential life-line customer class to which the existing monthly customer charge of \$5.06 and the existing \$0.016 per kWh usage rate for the first 500 kWh per month should apply.

The commission also approved the purchase of transformers with an expenditure ceiling of \$475,000 and \$1 million ceiling for computer-based preventive maintenance and budgeting program, among others.

It also suspended the December 2008 contract review protocol for establishing an annual ceiling for internally funded capital improvement projects.

Written orders for these items are expected to be issued soon.

## Nenpou Shinkyo members to hold 5th peace ceremony

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**  
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REPORTER

Some 66 members of the Nenpou Shinkyo Buddhist Denomination, including their highest priest, will be on Saipan to hold a cleanup activity and peace memorial ceremonies this month.

Aya Matsumoto of Pacific Eagle Enterprises, Inc. said the Peace Memorial Ceremony is scheduled on May 22 at the Japanese Peace Memorial in Marpi followed by another peace ceremony at the Nenpou Shinkyo Monument in Banzai.

"This is the fifth year that they will hold the ceremony on Saipan," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Matsumoto said the 66 members are scheduled to arrive on the midnight of May 20, do the cleanup activity at the Japanese Peace Memorial and around Banzai area in the morning of May 21, and have the peace ceremonies the next morning.

The Nenpou Shinkyo Buddhist Denomination, which has about 88 shrines all over Japan, used to send hundreds of guests for this event that seeks to pray for all those who perished during World War II.

In 2009 alone, Matsumoto

said 200 Buddhists flew to Saipan to take part in the ceremony.

"If there were flights from Osaka, they can probably bring more people to pray during the ceremony," said Matsumoto, adding that the main shrine for the Nenpou Shinkyo is in Osaka.

Matsumoto said they invited administration officials to participate in the annual ceremony.

She expressed her appreciation to the members of the Nenpou Shinkyo who regularly conduct the cleanup activity in the memorial sites before the ceremony.

"They're really aggressive and dedicated to cleaning these sites," she added.

Matsumoto encouraged the community to join the ceremony and the cleanup activity to help maintain the memorial sites that Japanese tourists frequently visit when they are on island.

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## SICHUAN

From Page 1

today, but this time from Guangzhuo, also with 236 passengers on board.

Sichuan Airlines Group president and board chair Lan Xin Guo was the first passenger to emerge from

Airbus-330 aircraft yesterday, beaming as he received a shell lei from Alana'ia dance group's Kristin Hofschneider.

Like most of the passengers of the maiden flight, it was Lan's first time to travel to Saipan and Tinian.

"There's always a saying 'seeing is believing,'" Lan said in an interview

with reporters after clearing federal immigration at the airport.

Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino general manager Tom Liu, who was one of the earliest at the airport to welcome the passengers of the maiden flight, served as translator for Lan during the brief interview with the media.

"He's heard so many good things about Saipan and Tinian so now he has a chance to really see it for himself and I'm sure he will like it very much," Liu said.

Lan said Sichuan Airlines has been aware of Saipan for quite some time now because of existing flights between Saipan and China.

"So this is a good opportunity for Sichuan Airlines to start the service to Saipan," Lan said through Liu.

Lan also hopes that, with the Sichuan Airlines flights, "he can build relationship between China and U.S.," said Liu, adding that Lan hopes there will be more Americans or local people also visiting his city, Chengdu, in the Sichuan Province of China.

Sichuan Airlines will fly four times to Saipan from the two Chinese cities starting this week.

The flights from Shanghai will be every Monday and Friday at 5am. Yesterday's maiden touchdown was 10 minutes earlier than scheduled.

These flights are jointly chartered by Tinian Dynasty Travel and Century Tours.

The twice weekly flights from Guangzhou will arrive on Saipan on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 2:40am, chartered by Tinian Dynasty Travel.

Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino chair Michael Kwan was also in yesterday's inaugural flight.

Also on hand to greet the passengers of the maiden voyage were Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry Tenorio, MVA's Tatiana Babauta and Bruce Bateman, and Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero.

"With the situation in Japan, this is very welcome news—Sichuan starting to make business here on Saipan. I hope they will be successful. And once Japan rebounds, we would have a much better tourist number coming to Saipan," Deleon Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune*.

## DHS

From Page 1

regulations. It also missed a prior self-imposed deadline of September 2010.

The Commonwealth-only transitional worker regulations will provide a system for alien workers employed in the CNMI and who are not eligible for any other federal employment-based visa to keep working in the CNMI during the transition period.

The governor said he would like to see that the DHS regulations allow the CNMI to continue hiring the foreign

workers it needs.

"If that can be granted, we're satisfied. That's the protocol anyway. So those with umbrella permit, I would like them to be able to continue because we will never stop needing outside workers," he said.

Fitial said foreign workers who are already in the CNMI and are still needed should be able to remain on the islands.

"And then if we have new investment that would require additional [outside workers], then I think we should be allowed to hire additional," he added.

Fitial, at the same time, said the CNMI needs to beef up its training of the local workforce.

As for continued access to Russian and Chinese tourists, Fitial said his administration is now working "on a different protocol now" because he said the U.S. Labor secretary may not give the CNMI an extension of the transition period.

Fitial also said he's still awaiting a response from DHS' Customs and Border Protection on his letter about CBP officers' alleged mistreatment of arriving passengers at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

## ECONOMY

From Page 1

A major factor cited for the increase was the work-hour reduction implemented in the government and private sectors since last fiscal year.

After the implementation of work-hour reductions—and the corresponding decrease in wages—thousands of people became qualified to avail of the Medicaid program, Villagomez said.

"Work-hour reduction in the government and private sectors is the primary factor in the increase as well as the dropping out of health insurance. A family of four who usually makes \$30,000 annually and then dropped for instance to only \$25,000 is affected," he said.

The Medicaid program requires beneficiaries to meet a specific income threshold. Clients are strictly U.S. citizens and Villagomez said its newest members are made up of employees who experienced a reduction in work hours.

The program requires a 50-50 sharing between the local and federal governments, which means that for every \$1 spent, the CNMI has to find 50 cents as a matching fund, which should be identified first to get the equal reimbursement. Villagomez admitted that DPH itself is having difficulties in finding the matching funds for this program.

For now, the Medicaid program has temporarily stopped processing applicants as a result of this concern. With the new Affordable Care Act signed by U.S. President Barack Obama, Villagomez said this will help expand the program by allowing preventive care, which is not included in the existing program. A new matching of 45-55 percent sharing will also be changed.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that last fiscal year, DPH had to find close to \$7 million in matching funds for the Medicaid program.

### Two scenarios

Without the progress it hopes for the economy, DPH expects two scenarios: continued increase in clientele due to the unstable economy, or a remarkable reduction as a result of the exodus of people.

Villagomez cited the effects of the new immigration policy that may

turn away thousands of nonresident workers who have U.S. citizen children eligible for Medicaid program.

"Those kids have to leave with their parents because of immigration status. Also, we may see an increase because our economy is not getting any better. There's no clear picture really as what to expect for next year."

### Govt insurance

According to Ray S. Ada of the NMI Retirement Fund, there are only about 2,700 individuals currently enrolled in the government's Group Health Life Insurance Program: about 1,700 retirees and only about 1,000 active government employees.

In contrast, there are an estimated 5,000 active government employees on the three major islands and about 6,000 retirees in the Commonwealth.

Because the GHLIP is an optional plan, Ada said that many government employees choose to enroll in private carriers while a significant number have opted not to have any health insurance at all.

The government group health insurance plan covers only medical services; the premium is paid equally by the government and the employee through a 50-50 percent sharing. Under private insurance carriers, an employee has to pay 100 percent of the premium.

Ada pointed out the plan's premium has increased almost every year. Just last year, an across-the-board 33 percent hike was implemented. Ada confirmed that the new premium rate is the reason for the big dropout since last year.

"The decline in number [of insured personnel] was due to the expensive premium for the insurance. Many cannot afford to pay it due to the reduction of hours. Some of them want to keep it...but it's just that they really can't afford it for now. Every month, we're seeing a decrease [in GHLIP members] because of high gas prices, low salary, and other reasons attributed to the economic hardship," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Ada disclosed that prior to the work hour reduction in government there were more than a thousand employees under the GHLIP plan.

According to DPH's Villagomez, the department doesn't track the number of people who are insured and it is only through information provided by its clients that they know

about their insurance history.

"The only way to know is that when they are in the system and they have insurance in the past. We know that they dropped it when they go to the hospital and seek treatment," he said.

### Private insurers

Although current numbers are still considered "stable," private health insurance carriers on island admit to being worried about the impact of several factors on their businesses: the continued work hour reductions in government and private sectors, the new immigration policy, and the new Health Care Reform Act that would regulate health insurance in the United States.

Eric Plinske, manager of Staywell Health Insurance on Saipan, describes the company's enrollment and membership figures as stable for now. "However, we're always concerned about the future of the government and private sectors. We also don't know what will happen after the November 2011 and probably the biggest risk in the insurance industry is the federal health care reform act."

Plinske refused to disclose the company's membership or enrollment numbers but pointed out that these will be affected if the economy worsens and people continue to lose their jobs. "There is no way they can still afford to keep their insurance."

Liza Anda, Moylan's Insurance Underwriters International Inc. health plan coordinator, blamed economic hardship as the main factor for the slight decrease in their enrollment numbers. She noted that because of work hour cuts, a significant number of their accounts have chosen to downgrade their plan's benefits just to retain their insurance plans.

Like Plinske, Anda said that because Moylan caters to private sector employees, the bad economy may further drag their numbers down if people are laid off from their jobs or companies opt to take away the health insurance benefit of employees.

"In this time of economic uncertainties, the best customer service is the only assurance we're providing to our clients [to retain them]," added Anda.

Calvo's Insurance administrative supervisor Lourdes Muña-Camacho said the company did lose many accounts from government employees

as a result of the across-the-board salary reductions since last fiscal year. However, because of new registrants from other sectors, this has offset the losses.

Muña-Camacho said that Calvo's has over 500 subscribers or policy holders on Saipan, excluding their dependents.

"We're still OK right now although we lost a lot of government accounts and members. I can say that we're still stable because we also gain some...so it balanced our numbers," she said.

To keep these accounts, Muña-Camacho said that Calvo's alters its plans to make them affordable. "We alter plans in order to make affordable for the accounts and prevent them from canceling or transferring," she added.

### Promissory notes

Besides the increase in Medicaid clients, DPH is also experiencing a high number of patients who sign promissory notes, just so they could continue their medical treatment here and off-island.

DPH chief Villagomez disclosed that the department, through the medical referral program, cannot turn away patients—even without the necessary resources to help them.

"Usually what happens is that we evaluate their financial status and, assuming airlines, hotels, and hospitals are ready to accept them, they need let's say 20 percent payment. So while they're there, we will call the hospital and shoulder the payment and when they get back, they will sign a promissory note," he said.

Collecting on these owed payments is another story, though. Villagomez said the government has aging collectibles from clients that continue to drag the program down.

"We're trying to collect...but the reality is most of them don't have the ability to pay due to the hardship everybody is experiencing on island. What can we do if somebody doesn't have the ability to pay?" he asked.

DPH spent \$16.3 million to refer medical cases to medical facilities outside the Commonwealth from fiscal years 2006 through 2009. In 2009, DPH spent \$7.4 million for the 907 patients it referred to other hospitals. This is an over 50 percent increase from 2008's expenses of \$4.4 million for 716 cases.

In fiscal year 2010, the government spent more than \$8 million for its medical referral program—the highest amount incurred in the last several years. The big spike, DPH said, was due to more and more people dropping their medical insurance, forcing the government to shoulder a larger share of the expenses.

Recently, travel agencies that assist in booking medical referral patients stopped their service after the government failed to pay them on time. Since then, only emergency cases are allowed to seek medical treatment off-island. Some hospitals are also hesitant to accept medically referred patients from the CNMI due to the payment history of the government.

Medicare, a program designed for the elderly or 65 and above U.S. citizens, has also posted an increase in clients. Fortunately, DPH receives 100 percent reimbursement from the federal government. A large number of dialysis patients are under this program.

### Serious consequences

Without any significant economic changes on island, Villagomez anticipates extremely difficult times for everyone.

"What happens if the current economic trend continues? I think people will find ways and means to survive: probably move elsewhere and find a living. It's not to say it's not rough elsewhere, but the opportunities are greater than the CNMI. Here, a lot of people want to work, but it's just that no jobs are available for everyone," he added.

Villagomez encourages everyone to retain their health insurance and keep their body healthy at all times.

"First and foremost, stay healthy. If you have underlying health conditions, prioritize to have health insurance because unchecked condition usually results in serious consequences. And let's hope that economy picks up because we cannot continue to go down this bad," he said.

Villagomez also emphasized the importance of availing of preventive care that will protect people from major illnesses.

Despite its limited resources, Villagomez assured that the department will stay open to assist the community.

DPH receives an annual appropriation of \$32 million. The bulk of the amount—\$25 million—goes to hospital operations alone.



# FDA, ICE joint probe on illegal importation of fake Viagra

## » Suspected big-time supplier of fake Viagra falls

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_deltorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement are jointly investigating the illegal importation of counterfeit drugs such as fake Viagra from China to the CNMI.

A complaint was filed yesterday in the U.S. District Court for the NMI against Cai Xia Xu, also known as Jing Yan Li and Hai Xia Li, charging Xu with four counts of trafficking

in counterfeit goods, one count of introduction of misbranded drugs into interstate commerce, and one count of receipt and delivery of misbranded drugs in interstate commerce.

Saipan Tribune learned that Xu, a Chinese woman, was taken yesterday to the federal court for an initial court appearance.

Erectile dysfunction drugs like Pfizer Inc.'s Viagra require a doctor's prescription for purchase.

Garrett Chinn, special agent with the FDA Office of Crimi-

nal Investigations, stated in an affidavit that their office and ICE Homeland Security Investigations are currently conducting a joint probe involving Xu, a known distributor of counterfeit Viagra.

Chinn said that, on Feb. 20, 2011, they interviewed a confidential source who told them that a Chinese woman, later identified as Xu, could sell the confidential source 50 to 100 bottles of Viagra. The source tagged Xu as a big supplier of Viagra.

Chinn said that, on Feb. 24,

2011, the source called Xu to inquire about buying 20 bottles of Viagra.

Later that day, Chinn said, the source managed to buy 20 bottles of Viagra from Xu for \$620 at a meeting place in Chalan Kanoa. Each bottle contained 30 100mg tablets.

On April 27, 2011, Chinn said, FDA's Forensic Chemistry Center returned the results of the samples of Viagra that were purchased from Xu and it showed that the label and foil seal were not authentic, and the bottle had a wrong recycle code.

Additionally, the agent said, the tablets contained the presence of sildenafil citrate at 82 mg per table but the residual solvent profile was not consistent with the profile historically observed for authentic Viagra.

Chinn said the confidential source told them on April 29, 2011, that in order to buy more Viagra, the order should be

made now because the shipment takes about two months to arrive on Saipan. The source then placed an order with Xu for 200 bottles of Viagra.

On May 2, 2011, Chinn said, the source was able to buy from Xu 10 bottles of Viagra containing 30 100mg tablets, for \$310, at a meeting place in San Antonio.

Later that night, Chinn said, the source managed to buy from Xu 20 more bottles of Viagra containing 30 100mg tablets, for \$620, at the same meeting place in San Antonio.

The following day, an officer from the Pfizer Global Security reviewed and tested the tablets from two separate bottles of Viagra purchased from Xu on May 2. The officer determined that the tablets and labeling on the bottles were both counterfeits.

On May 6, 2011, Xu allegedly called the source that she

had 100 bottles of Viagra for sale. The source offered to buy just 10 bottles. When the source handed the \$310 to Xu for the 10 bottles of Viagra at their meeting place on As Perdido Road that day, the undercover agents detained Xu and transported her to ICE's office for immigration verification.

Xu told the agents she didn't know that the Viagra was counterfeit.

Chinn said that during a search at Xu's residence on May 7, 2011, they recovered, among other things, numerous wire transfer receipts showing multiple transfers of cash to the People's Republic of China.

Last month, Wei Yuan Ou, an operator of a retail store in western Garapan, pleaded guilty for selling 29 tablets worth \$118 of unapproved erectile dysfunction drugs or Viagra-like tablets to an undercover agent in February 2011.

## Sour kitchen officially opens; attracts more volunteers



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Volunteers and board members of The Salvation Army pose for a group photo during the open house of the Guma Yo' ase' or House of Mercy on Saturday.

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The CNMI Salvation Army's Guma Yo' ase' or House of Mercy found more volunteers who signed up during its open house on Saturday.

"We already signed up four new volunteers in the first hour since we opened the soup kitchen. We thank the Bank of Hawaii for the grant that enabled us to open this facility," ministry leader Wayne Gillespie told Saipan Tribune.

Kagman resident Concepcion Rios, who has been a member of the Salvation Army congregation for four years, said she volunteered at the soup kitchen to give back to the community where she belongs.

"I myself had been homeless in the past. This time, I want to be a blessing to those who have nothing to eat. I hope we can help a lot of people through this soup kitchen," she said.

Curtis and Sonya Pangelinan-Dancoe thought volunteering their time at the Guma Yo' ase' would be a good opportunity to spend time together while helping other people.

The couple, who came back to Saipan in late 2010, are now the members of the "Kitchen Cabinet" or the committee responsible for coordinating donations, food drives, and publicities, a "key part of the soup

kitchen program" according to Gillespie.

"It's something that both of us want to do," said Curtis Dancoe.

Sonya Pangelinan-Dancoe said they plan to involve their two children and have them learn about helping those in need.

"I think it's a blessing that we have people who do care for others. We need to be humble and give back to the community," she added.

Sonya Pangelinan-Dancoe, along with Salvation Army advisory board chair Lucy Norita-Shilling, also served as the Doughnut Girls, which refers to women who give out snacks as a symbol of "loving concern and readiness to help in time of need."

The international faith-based organization opened the two-storey facility across Hopwood Junior High School.

The rummage sale area on the ground floor is a place where the group will sell furniture, appliances, clothing, and other items to support Salvation Army's various programs. The second floor will accommodate the soup kitchen where the hungry can be fed.

The soup kitchen area, Gillespie said, can accommodate about 50 persons as they have extra chairs and tables in addition to the 32 chairs and four tables that have already been set up.

Gillespie said they will soon have the laundry machines set up so that Guma Yo' ase' can also serve as a homeless drop-in center where people can come in and eat, take a shower, and do laundry.

Light refreshments like donuts, pancit, fried dumplings were served during Saturday's open house.

House Speaker Eli Cabrera said he is very happy about the opening of the Guma Yo' ase'.

"This is the type of program that assists the needy. I hope the people that come here are the ones who are really in need and not abuse what this soup kitchen has to offer," he said.

Cabrera also encouraged the public to donate items for the rummage sale area and the soup kitchen to help Salvation Army continue running the facility.

The group always accepts non-perishable food items like canned goods, bottled water, working serviceable items for the rummage area, and items needed for the drop-in center such as laundry detergent and dishwashing soap.

Right now, Gillespie said they are in need of a 15-passenger van and a pickup truck to transport donations and the homeless to and from the Guma Yo' ase'.

"Volunteer services are always welcome," he added.

To donate, call Gillespie at 483-0885.

## Man allegedly threatens to punch in-law

A woman repeatedly called the police to have her son-in-law arrested on Saturday for allegedly threatening to punch her at her home in Chinatown.

Joseph Jo Shoking, 43, was arrested for disturbing the peace. He was released yesterday on a \$500 unsecured bond.

Superior Court associate judge Kenneth L. Govendo

ordered Shoking to stay away from his mother-in-law and her house.

Detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that the victim had claimed it was already her third time to call the police since the night before because Shoking was drunk and had been creating problems.

The victim said since her

daughter passed away in 2009, her daughter's boyfriend, Shoking, neglected their four children and moved out from the house.

She said Shoking would create problems to get the food stamps for the children.

On Saturday, Shoking allegedly threatened to punch her then yelled at her. (Ferdie de la Torre)



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## NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

**Benigno R. Fitial**  
Governor

*This ad is paid for by NMHC funds.*

**Eloy S. Inos**  
Lt. Governor

Notice is hereby given that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is the agency authorized to allocate Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) in Saipan. The United States 1986 Tax Reform Act created the federal low-income housing tax credit (Credit) under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) to assist the development of low-income rental housing by providing qualified owners with Credit to offset their federal tax obligations. The LIHTC is available to owners/developers of qualifying Buildings and projects that meet certain low-income occupancy and rent restrictions.

Section 42 of the Code provides that CNMI prepare a Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) to determine housing priorities and to give preference to projects serving the lowest income tenants and projects obligated to serve qualified tenants for the longest periods. The Qualified Allocation Plan must incorporate selection criteria, which includes project location, housing need characteristics, sponsor characteristics, tenant populations with special needs, and public housing waiting lists.

NMHC has developed a QAP and is available at NMHC's office. The QAP describes the basis that NMHC will use to allocate LIHTCs. NMHC may allocate \$2,430,000.00 in LIHTCs for the 2010 program year and \$2,465,000 for the 2011 program year.

### Application for LIHTCs

Owners/Developers wishing to apply for the LIHTCs should obtain and complete a LIHTC Application. The LIHTC Application may be obtained from NMHC's Office in Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950.

Owners/Developers must file the completed LIHTC Application and the **\$1,000.00 Application Fee** in NMHC's Office by the Application Deadline of **4:30 pm, May 31, 2011**. NMHC staff will review the application and will notify the Owner/Developer of any deficiencies by **June 7, 2011**. The owner/developer will be given 10 days to correct any deficiencies. Any corrections or supplemental information requested by NMHC must be received by **June 17, 2011**. The projects will be scored and recommendations made to the NMHC Board of Directors for approval at its **June 2011** Board Meeting.

### Notification of Awards

NMHC will notify Owners/Developers of the projects receiving LIHTCs 30 days following the June 2011 Board of Directors meeting. Owners/Developers will then have 30 days to complete their market study to meet the requirements. The reservation letter must be signed and returned to NMHC by no later than the submission of the market study.

For more information on this program, please contact NMHC at 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

/s/ **JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO**  
Corporate Director

NMHC will make necessary arrangement for persons with disabilities or persons requiring interpreters upon prior notification. Should you require such arrangement, please contact Ms. Jocelyn Kaipat at telephone numbers 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

**EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**



# 2 Rota students win Law Day poster, essay contests

Two Rota students were named winners of the first annual Law Day Poster and Essay contest.

In a statement yesterday, the Judiciary said that Beda G. Mundo, an eighth grader at the Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Junior High School, won the essay competition, while Andrea T. Atalig, a fifth grader at the Sinalpalo Elementary School, won the poster making contest.

Students were invited to create a poster or write an essay

that celebrates this year's theme "The Legacy of John Adams, from Boston to Guantanamo."

Other winners in the essay contest were Jonathan R. Pangelinan, 7th grade, Mount Carmel School, Saipan, second place; Zion Alamer, 7th grade, Calvary Christian Academy, Saipan, third place; and Noemy Grace V. Pamintuan, 7th grade, and Cathryn Javier, 7th grade, Mount Carmel School, Saipan, honorable mention.

In the poster contest, the other winners were Francheska O. Fauni, 5th grade, William S. Reyes Elementary School, Saipan, second place; Ryan Christian U. Relucio, 5th grade, WSR, Saipan, third place; and Chloe Hazel Anne P. Salvosa, 5th grade, WSR, Saipan; and Eunice Anne C. Viray, WSR, Saipan, honorable mention.

The award ceremony will be held on Thursday, May 12, 2011, at 11am in the Supreme

Court courtroom on Saipan. All the winners will receive a copy of the newly released *Judiciary History Book* and a certificate of achievement. Cash prizes will go to the first, second, and third places winners.

The contest was sponsored by the NMI Judicial Council, the Northern Marianas Judiciary Historical Society, the CNMI Bar Association, and the Public School System commissioner. *(Saipan Tribune)*

## Ex-convict sentenced to 20 years has kin who also have 'ice' cases

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona noted that many immediate family members of an ex-convict she had sentenced to 20 years in prison for illegal drug charges have had their own methamphetamine hydrochloride or "ice" related criminal cases too in both local and federal courts.

In a written judgment of conviction against Ignacio Aldan Leon Guerrero last week, Manglona said that Leon Guerrero's four sisters, two nieces, a nephew, a brother-in-law and a friend have written her letters of support, asking for leniency and seeking treatment instead of imprisonment for the defendant.

Manglona said many were present in the courtroom for Leon Guerrero's sentencing on Monday, May 2.

Unfortunately, Manglona said, Leon Guerrero's two sisters, two brothers, two nieces, and his own son, Ignacio Jr., have had their own "ice" related criminal cases in both the Superior Court and the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Manglona said the letters urged that the 57-year-old Leon Guerrero be referred to treatment for rehabilitation.

Leon Guerrero, however, has had more than enough chances to seek treatment, Manglona said, and that he was presumably offered the opportunity during his federal prison sentence and probation period.

"Each time he encountered law enforcement officers, he or the other family members could have referred [Leon Guerrero] to additional treatment for rehabilitation. [He] does not need a court order to obtain such services," Manglona stressed.

She said Leon Guerrero's history reveals his strong addiction to drugs and complete disrespect for the rule of law.

"He is a continued threat to himself, his family, and the community. He and others similarly situated need to be deterred from continuing in this criminal

conduct. A long prison sentence is more than warranted," the judge said.

Leon Guerrero was sentenced to 20 years in prison for conspiracy to commit trafficking of a controlled substance ("ice") and illegal possession of a controlled substance (marijuana). The sentence is not subject to suspension, probation, or parole.

Leon Guerrero was also ordered to pay a \$15,500 fine, and \$100 court fee.

At the hearing, Leon Guerrero expressed remorse, recognizing his weakness and promising to enroll himself in counseling to address his addiction. He pleaded for clemency on behalf of his two young children. He promised never to engage in these acts again and that he would not be back in court anymore.

But Manglona cited Leon Guerrero's extensive history of drug abuse, saying the defendant was convicted for the same offense 15 years ago in federal court for possessing more than five grams of "ice." In that case, Leon Guerrero was sentenced to 18 months in prison and four years of supervised release.

"Unfortunately, this prison sentence did not change his ways," Manglona said.

Manglona said that, in April 2009, Leon Guerrero confessed to police officers that he was engaged in trafficking "ice." Less than a year later, in March 2010, he was arrested for this criminal case.

In July 2010, police again searched Leon Guerrero's residence for a matter involving his son. Manglona said the search resulted in the confiscation of a rifle, ammunition, and baggies with crystal-like substance that tested positive for "ice."

Furthermore, she said, officers also discovered an in-house surveillance system.

"These facts show that [Leon Guerrero] and those around him have not learned an important lesson. These are indicators that he does not appreciate his liberty nor does he or those around him fear any of the legal consequences," Manglona said.

## 25 man'amko to join Takeover Day today

About twenty-five congregates of the Aging Center will participate in the *Man'amko* Takeover Day today.

*Man'amko* Takeover Day is when some of the elderly population on island take charge at government and private offices for one day. The event is part of the celebration of Older Americans Month/*Mes Man'amko/Maramal Tifaay* in May of every year.

Walter Manglona, Aging Center program coordinator, said that some of the 25 *man'amko* will be picked up by while others will be dropped off to the agencies and offices where they will work for

a few hours.

"They're really looking forward to doing this activity," Manglona told *Saipan Tribune*.

Manglona said those congregates who will not participate in this year's Takeover Day will remain at the Aging Center where they can do the activities they like such as bingo and billiards.

"We want to thank all the offices that will take part in the *Man'amko* Takeover Day," he said.

He also acknowledged Aging director Rose Mondala who made this year's event possible. *(Clarissa V. David)*

## Pacific Winds, choral groups to stage free concert on Sunday

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**  
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REPORTER

For the first time, the Saipan Pacific Winds Concert Band and various choral groups will perform in one concert.

Sponsored by Friends of the Arts, the concert is slated for Sunday, May 15, from 4pm to 6pm at the American Memorial Park Amphitheater.

Concert admission is free.

Park Ranger Susan Fish-

man-Tudor, in an interview, said the Americana-themed concert will feature a range of songs from the Saipan Pacific Winds Concert Band and the choral groups People in the Park, Marianas High School Chorale, Kagman High School Chorus, The Rocketeers, and Vocal Explosion.

"The groups will also be singing all national anthems in four-part harmony, something which hasn't been done before," Fish-

man-Tudor told *Saipan Tribune*.

The program was originally intended for the National Park Week celebration from April 16 to 24, 2011, but had to be moved since it coincided with the observance of Holy Week, Fishman-Tudor said.

"This will be the first time that the Saipan Pacific Winds will have a concert with the different choral groups on island," said Fishman-Tudor. "It's going to be a wonderful opportunity to

showcase many of our great local talents."

Fishman-Tudor added that the American Memorial Park really has the amphitheater in mind as a venue for performances and presentations where the public can go and enjoy great entertainment.

She encouraged the community to watch Sunday's free concert. For more information, contact Frank Gibson of Friends of the Arts at 287-7476.

## Ad hoc panel created to evaluate education commissioner

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
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REPORTER

The CNMI Board of Education has created an ad hoc committee that will come up with assessment tools to evaluate Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan.

Board chair Marylou S. Ada appointed board member Galvin Deleon Guerrero to chair the three-member panel that will include Lucy Blanco-Maratita and Denise Tanya King.

Ada said it is the purpose of the committee to research, review, and make recommendations on tools that will be used to evaluate the education commissioner and Board of Education staff and members.

The panel has three months—or until July this year—to complete its work.

The education commissioner's contract is subject for evaluation each year. The position serves at the pleasure of the board, which serves as its employer.

Sablan has been with the school system for more than 25 years. She started as a teacher at Garapan Elementary School in 1982 and, after two years,

became a principal for the next seven years. In August of 2008, Sablan became the education commissioner, replacing Dr.

David Borja.

The evaluation of other positions in the Public School System will remain under the sys-

tem's human resource office.

PSS has over a thousand employees, including federally funded personnel.



### RENOVATION WORK

Torn down walls on the ground floor of the Office of the Governor building on Capital Hill greet visitors and passersby as 3K Corp. works on the last of the three-phased renovation of the building built at least six decades ago.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## Three ministers don't want to testify in child sex abuse case

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
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REPORTER

Three ministers or elders of the Tinian congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses are asking the Superior Court to quash the government's subpoena that commands them to appear at a jury trial of a man accused of sexually abusing a girl.

Bob Morie, Emyl Lumba, and Dwight Manglona stated in their motion that the subpoena would be burdensome and op-

pressive since it requires the disclosure of privileged and protected information.

Morie, Lumba, and Manglona asserted that the subpoena would require them to testify and reveal privileged confessions, admissions, information, and or confidential communications that are privileged under the Federal Rules of Evidence.

Suspect Geoffrey K. Cabrera, 27, through court-appointed counsel Joseph N. Camacho,

joined in the ministers' motion.

The ministers said it is the religious belief and practice of Jehovah's Witnesses, based upon Scripture and tradition, that elders must maintain in strict confidence any church communications connected with spiritual counseling and that congregants expect their communications to elders will remain confidential.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that the jury trial of Cabrera began yesterday at the Tinian Superior Court. Associate Judge David

A. Wiseman is presiding.

The alleged victim testified yesterday. Both the alleged victim and defendant are members of Jehovah's Witnesses.

Assistant attorneys general Russell Lorring and Tiberius Mocanu yesterday moved to dismiss one count of sexual assault in the first degree. The remaining charge is one count of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree.

The jury trial of Cabrera will continue today, Tuesday.



# Up to \$2K in monthly allowance for House members pushed

## Samoa to shift back west of international dateline

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)**—The South Pacific island nation of Samoa announced plans Monday to jump forward in time by one day by switching to the west side of the international dateline—119 years after it moved the other way in a bid to boost its trade and economy.

Prime Minister Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi cited the same reasons for shifting back, saying moving forward a day will make doing business with key partners Australia and New Zealand “far, far easier and more convenient.”

The move will see the independent Polynesian nation share the same date and a similar time as its Pacific neighbors, including Australia and New Zealand.

Samoa and neighboring American Samoa lied west of the international dateline until 1892, when a U.S. business trader convinced both to switch to the east, moving back to the previous day's date. Samoa has long marketed itself as the last place on earth to see the sun each day.

“A local trader lobbied successfully for the change as it was convenient for trading ships from Europe and the United States that were servicing Samoa at the time,” Tuilaepa said in a statement. “But

our trading partners have dramatically changed since, and today we do a lot more business with New Zealand and Australia, China and Pacific Rim countries such as Singapore.”

Tuilaepa said Samoa is currently losing out on two working days a week doing business with New Zealand and Australia.

“While it's Friday here, it's Saturday in New Zealand, and when we're at church Sunday, they're already conducting business in Sydney and Brisbane,” he said.

The shift will put the dateline between Samoa and American Samoa, a U.S. territory, but Tuilaepa said that would create “exciting tourism opportunities.”

“You can have two birthdays, two weddings and two wedding anniversaries on the same date—on separate days—in less than an hour's flight across, without leaving the Samoan chain,” he said.

In 2009, Tuilaepa enacted a law switching drivers to the left side of the road instead of the right, to bring Samoa in line with Australia and New Zealand.

Samoa, a nation of 180,000 people, is located about halfway between New Zealand and Hawaii.

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A resolution seeks to authorize all 20 House of Representatives members to have a subsistence allowance of up to \$2,000 a month for official functions on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Rep. Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan), who will formally introduce his House Resolution 17-49 in today's session, said yesterday this will promote “fairness” among all lawmakers.

Tenorio said the subsistence allowance is not additional money because it's already included in each lawmaker's allotment.

He said he's proposing a change in the House rules through a resolution, just like what the Senate did with its own rules to provide for subsistence allowances.

Since the Office of the Public Auditor, the Office of the Attorney General, and the Department of Finance continue

to allow Senate members and two House members to receive subsistence allowances without justification, Tenorio said he will await what these agencies have to say about allowing all lawmakers to get subsistence allowances.

“There's a saying, if you cannot beat them join them. And we should all be treated the same as lawmakers,” Tenorio told *Saipan Tribune*.

Currently, only Senate members and House members from Rota and Tinian get a monthly subsistence allowance of \$4,250 and \$4,000, respectively.

With Tenorio's HR 17-49, the Rota and Tinian representatives' monthly subsistence allowance will be reduced from up to \$4,000 to only up to \$2,000.

“And they also have to justify their per diem. They have to fill a form with Finance. If there's only one meeting on Saipan, then they can only claim for a \$175 per diem. There's no need to claim for up to \$4,000 a month when there are only five

or less days of legislative business in a month,” Tenorio said.

Under Tenorio's resolution, a House member who is not a chairman, vice chairman, or officer may use on a per diem basis \$175 to defray the cost of food, lodging, and other incidental expenses incurred when there's legislative business in the CNMI “both inside and outside the member's senatorial district.”

This, however, should not exceed \$2,000 a month.

House members who are officers, chairmen, or vice chairmen may specify and use a portion of the funds under the member's individual office account as an allowance of \$2,000 a month to defray the costs of food, lodging and other incidental expenses.

This early, though, House minority leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan) said it is “unnecessary” to authorize per diem allowance for House members from Saipan.

While he said he has yet to read the resolution, Benavente said he does not agree

with its intent.

“If you are a House member from Rota and Tinian, having a per diem when you are on Saipan is justified. Besides, there's already a so-called official representation authorization so there's no need to give a per diem for Saipan House members. But I hope they're all justified official representation and none of it goes to personal use,” he said.

Tenorio, when he was still House speaker, had wanted to remove all lawmakers' monthly subsistence allowance of up to \$4,250, a few weeks after the Senate's decision to also allow Saipan senators to receive up to \$2,750 in monthly subsistence allowance.

At the time, he also said he will introduce a House measure to restrict the monthly subsistence allowance of all lawmakers, to include senators.

He said it is not fair that only select lawmakers get monthly subsistence allowance on top of their monthly salary.

## 2 MHS students get \$1K each in Thespian grants

The Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands, or TWPI,

has awarded two college scholarships for school year

2011-2012.

Marianas High School stu-

dent Downen Joeson, who will minor in theatre at Saint Louis University, and MHS senior Rochelle Dimapilis, who will take some theatre courses at the Northern Marianas College, will each receive \$1,000 from Thespians.

“TWPI helps promote lifelong learning through the dramatic arts,” said Harold Easton, TWPI chapter director. “We wish success to Downen and Rochelle and are happy to have this opportunity to help in their academic pursuits.”

The Thespians began its annual scholarship awards in 2005, and this year's awards bring the total number of student recipients to 10. The scholarship funds are made available through profits raised from Thespian productions along with funds contributed by the Educational Theatre Association.

The Thespians has also received support in the past from Friends of the Arts for its scholarship fund and accepts and appreciates donations into its scholarship fund from any generous donor. Any student, parent, or organization who wants more information about Thespians and the opportunities available to middle and high school students may contact Easton at Marianas High School. **(TWPI)**

**CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**  
Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands scholarship winner Rochelle Dimapilis, second from right, and her father receive the \$1,000 scholarship check from TWPI chapter director Harold Easton, second from left, and TWPI board member Sibylla Guerrero, leftmost, at the Marianas High School campus.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Thespians of the Western Pacific Islands scholarship winner Downen Joeson, second from right, and her mother receive the \$1,000 scholarship check from TWPI chapter director Harold Easton, second from left, and TWPI board member Sibylla Guerrero, leftmost, at the Marianas High School campus.



### FIRST COMMUNION

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congratulations to Royce Angelo and Rane Angeline Ben on their first Holy Communion on Sunday May 8, 2011, at the Kristo Rai Church. We love you both.



### 30TH ANNIVERSARY

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 30th wedding anniversary to Jess and Zenaida Hernandez! May you have many more years to come and God bless.



# FSM Congress to convene tomorrow



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Eleven out of 14 members of the upcoming 17th Federated States of Micronesia Congress listen to the two presenters: Dr. Underwood and Congress staff attorney Jonathan White. The two-day FSM Congress Orientation Seminar was an opportunity for members to share ideas as national leaders and discuss procedural, oversight and legislative processes of the Congress.

**PALIKIR, Pohnpei**—The Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia will convene in Palikir tomorrow, May 11 2011, at 10am Pohnpei time, to induct members-elect of the new 17th Congress and to reorganize the leadership of the national government.

The new congressional body will select the leadership of the legislative branch and in addition, as provided for by the rules of procedures, during the “first session of each new Congress for which members at-large have been elected,” the nation’s President and Vice President will be elected from among the eligible members.

According to the FSM Constitution, Congress members eligible for the presidency and vice presidency are the states’ at-large or four-year representatives to Congress and the eligible members for Wednesday’s elections are: State of Chuuk, Emanuel ‘Manny’ Mori; State of Kosrae, Alik L. Alik; State of Pohnpei, Peter M. Christian; and State of Yap, Joseph J. Urusemal.

The opening session will also reorganize the leadership of Congress, namely the speaker, vice speaker, floor leaders and de-

cide on the heads and members of the seven congressional standing committees: Ways and Means, Resources and Development, Education; Judiciary and Governmental Operations, External Affairs, Transportation and Communications, and Health and Social Affairs.

Recently seated Chief Justice of the FSM Supreme Court Martin G. Yinug will administer the oath of office to members-elect of the new Congress. The senators-elect in alphabetical order of the states and numerical order of the Election Districts are:

## State of Chuuk

1. Emanuel ‘Manny’ Mori, at-large
2. Florencio Singkoro Harper, ED.1 (Mortlock Islands);
3. Roger S. Mori, ED. 2 (Northern Namoneas);
4. Bonsiano Fasy Nethon, ED. 3 (Southern Namoneas);
5. Tiwiter Aritos, ED. 4 (Faichuuk Region); and
6. Tony H. Otto, ED. 5 (Halls & Northwestern Islands)

## State of Kosrae

7. Alik L. Alik, At-Large
8. Paliknoa K. Welly, ED. 1
- State of Pohnpei**
9. Peter M. Christian, at-large;
10. Dohsis Halbert, ED. 1 (Sokehs, Kolonia, Sapwuahfik, Nukuoro and Kapingamarangi);
11. Berney Martin, ED.2 (Madolenihmw and Kitt); and
12. David W. Panuelo, ED 3 (U, Nett, Mwokilloa and Pingelap)

## State of Yap

13. Senator Joseph J. Urusemal, at-large
  14. Senator Isaac V. Figir
- Congress invites the public to witness the historical events May 11 2011, in Palikir at 10am Pohnpei time or tune in to the live broadcast enabled by the FSM Telecommunications Corp. through the assistance of the Pohnpei Public Broadcasting Corp.
- With the assistance of the FSM TC and Pohnpei Broadcasting, the live event will also be fed to the state radio stations and the Internet through the FSM Telecom’s web address: [www.fm](http://www.fm). (PR)

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Free fisheries meeting on Tinian today

The CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources’ Division of Fish and Wildlife is inviting the public to a Fisheries Meeting today, May 10, 2011, on Tinian, from 11am to 2pm, at the Tinian NMC campus. Topics will include marine conservation plan, the Mariana Trench Visitors Center, marine protected areas, DFW fish and wildlife regulations, and other fishery issues. Everyone is welcome.

The division will host a similar meeting on Saipan on Thursday, May 12, 2011, at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. (PR)

### Free band and choral concert at AMP

The Friends of the Arts will be hosting a special band and choral concert on Sunday, May 15, from 4pm to 6pm, at the American Memorial Park Amphitheater. There will be no charge for attending and enjoying the concert. It is being sponsored by several businesses in the community.

The concert, titled From Sea to Shining Sea, will have an Americana theme with a variety of songs from American history and music culture performed by:

- Saipan Pacific Winds Concert Band, co-directed by Will DeWitt and Christina A. Nieras
- People in the Park (a choral group), directed by Ruthi Fruit
- MHS Chorale, directed by Ruthi Fruit
- KHS Chorus, directed by Colleen O’Laughlin
- The Rocketeers (a show choir), directed by Harold Easton
- Vocal Explosion (a show choir), directed by Harold Easton (PR)

### Noni juice workshop at UOG May 14

The University of Guam’s Cooperative Extension Service (Communities, Youth, Families, Food and Nutrition Unit) will host a noni juice workshop from 9 a.m. to noon on May 14 at the UOG Agriculture and Life Sciences building, room 127. The workshop will cover noni plant propagation and making fresh noni juice in the home. Fifty slots are available. Register by calling 735-2062/2029 by May

12. A \$5 registration fee covering materials and noni juice sampling will be collected on the workshop day. (UOG)

### Free business workshops

The CNMI Small Business Development Center, in partnership with the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, will be hosting the following free workshops:

- How to start a business: May 17, 2011, 9am to 11am
  - How to write a business plan: May 18, 2011, 9am to 11am
- The workshops will be held at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce office on the first floor of the Famila Building in Garapan. Deadline for pre-registration is 12pm, May 20, 2011. For more information contact Ralph Yumul at 664-3018. Requests for reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities must be made 72 hours in advance.
- The CNMI Small Business Development Center is partially funded by a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. (SCC)

### Services to US armed forces

The American Red Cross–NMI Chapter is inviting all U.S. military service members—active, reserve, Guard, and veterans—to attend a “Health & Well Being Workshop” on Saturday, May 28, 2011, at the Pacific Islands Club’s Charley’s Cabaret.

The workshop, from 8:30am to 12pm, will feature:

- Red Cross “Get to Know Us” briefing
- Ruth Coleman of Veterans affairs
- VA clinic Medical Associates of the Pacific, LLC.
- VFW Post Commander

The workshop, breakfast, lunch, and park passes will be provided free of charge for all qualified military service members (DD-214). Military service members are allowed to bring two dependents.

Space is limited, so sign-up today. For more information or to register call or email Le’ah A. Murphy, Red Cross SAF Coordinator, at 234-3459 or [leah.murphy670@gmail.com](mailto:leah.murphy670@gmail.com). (PR)

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS’ HEADLINES

May 10, 1999

### US Coast Guard says illegal immigration on the rise

The number of illegal migrants intercepted in the waters off Guam has increased. Federal and local authorities have taken more than 800 illegal Asian migrants into custody on and in the vicinity of the US territory of Guam since mid-March 1999. Authorities have interdicted three of those vessels totaling over 300 people in the last two weeks. The concern over this influx of illegal migrants is both humanitarian and law enforcement issue. Majority of these migrants have made the transit from mainland China on small, ill-equipped fishing vessels. Due to the duration of the voyage and the large number of people crammed onto the vessels, conditions are both unsafe and unsanitary.

### Feds send more medical help to Tinian

A new batch of medical personnel from the US Public Health Service arrived last week to handle the medical needs of the illegal Chinese immigrants now temporarily staying on the island-municipality of Tinian. According to Public Health Secretary Kevin Joe Villagomez, the seven-man medical team will stay here for two weeks and will be replaced by a new batch from the US mainland. Villagomez has assured the community that the latest batch of Chinese immigrants have been cleared of any communicable disease. He said the department has so far been providing the needed medical supplies but it cannot send its own medical personnel due to shortage of staff.

May 10, 2000

### NMC unveils CIP priorities

The Northern Marianas College is seeking the Legislature’s assistance in funding NMC’s Capital Improvement Projects plan as College President Jack Sablan revealed CIP priorities which the college sees as vital necessities to address the students’ needs. During a Board of Regents meeting this week, Mr. Sablan listed the general purpose classroom and the library as the college’s top priorities. “NMC is already maximizing the use of its current library resources and it needs a back up on its instructional materials,” said Mr. Sablan.

### House rejects proposed scholarship program

The House of Representatives yesterday axed a proposed scholarship program for government employees wishing to obtain a college degree due to potential funding problem as it would allow recipients to take a leave from work for up to four years with pay on top of the educational aid. A last-minute attempt by some members to save the measure failed as the House leadership stood pat in its decision. The 18-member chamber voted 9-7 to defeat a motion to refer it back to the Committee on Education. House Bill 12-102, offered by Rep. Jesus T. Attao, sought to create a new scholarship program funded by the government for its employees to obtain degrees in order to meet the requirements for “hard-to-fill” positions such as accountants, teachers and auditors.

May 10, 2001

### CNMI banks rally

Bank liabilities soared 4.4 percent to a six-year high of \$595.7 million in calendar year 2000, compared to \$570.4 million recorded in the previous year, according to an economic report released by the Department of Commerce. Figures obtained from the commerce department’s Banking Division showed a steady increase in bank deposits since 1996, where liabilities stood at \$463 million. Bank deposits rose in 1997 to \$481.1 million, and in 1998 when it broke the \$500 million mark for the first time with year-end deposits of \$522.8 million. Deposits surged ahead in 2000 despite a weak showing exhibited by demand and savings deposits sector of the banking industry.

### Bond flotation mulled to fund dump closure

Solid Waste Division Manager John Harder yesterday disclosed that works are underway to search for funding sources that will help finance the eventual conversion of the Puerto Rico dumpsite into a public park. In an interview, Mr. Harder said the Solid Waste Task Force is seriously looking at floating bonds in order to raise the amount needed for the closure of the Puerto Rico dumpsite. But he promptly added that the Department of Public Works-SWD is exploring all funding options as it awaits the awarding of the contract for the Marpi landfill and the Lower Base transfer station before the agency embarks into the proposed closure of the Puerto Rico dumpsite.



# Community urged to get involved vs sexual violence

Although the Sexual Assault Awareness month is now over, the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence says that efforts to get everyone involved in ending sexual violence is far from finished.

"We have really only begun our work and we would like to emphasize that violence has no place in our homes, our offices, anywhere. It takes all of us to create a safe and healthy CNMI. We should not be tolerant of any form of abuse or assault and we ask our community to be vigilant in watching out for those that need our help the most," said NMCADSV executive director Maisie B. Tenorio.

The Coalition wrapped up Sexual Assault Awareness Month with the Safe, Aware, Free, Empower (S.A.F.E.) Jamboree last April 30 at the Kolberville Youth Center.

Earlier in the month, the coalition held a Walk Against Sexual Violence, a mass vigil, offered information at Thursday Night Street Market booths and the American Red Cross CNMI Chapter Walkathon as well as coordinated a print and broadcast campaign that included English, Chamorro, Carolinian, Chinese, Tagalog, and Chuukese commercials to deliver this important message to the islands' diverse community.

## An advocate's viewpoint

Sexual assault breaks a person's life into pieces.

People often associate sexual assault as a stranger rape, but as shown by statistics, about two in three sexual as-

saults are committed by someone the victim knows.

In recognition of April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the coalition and its partners have launched a campaign to address the rising problem of domestic violence and sexual assault.

"Over the years, the CNMI has evolved into a community of a very rich and versatile mix of cultures and languages. Now we are challenged to engage people of these diverse backgrounds into the same cause—to create a community free of sexual violence," said Keiko Odashiro, a local advocate.

"Sexual assault breaks an individual's whole integrity and self-worth. Sexual assault violates human rights. It is a crime against human dignity. Sexual assault is a public safety issue that threatens our community welfare and survival," she said.

According to the national statistics about sexual assault by RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network), an American is sexually assaulted every two and a half minutes.

"Are we, as residents of the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands, active and proactive enough to prevent the crime of sexual assault from happening?" asked Odashiro.

Sexual assault is a pervasive problem that hits all sectors of the Commonwealth. It does not discriminate based on ethnicity, gender, age, ability, or socio-economic status. This is because perpetrators prey on victims' vulnerabilities. Victims can be anybody. They might come from broken families or



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants for the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence join the Walk Against Sexual Violence held in April as part of the coalition's efforts to promote Sexual Violence Awareness Month.

intact families.

Victims may also come from culturally and linguistically isolated communities where there is a persistent distrust toward law enforcement and mainstream social services. They might come from the culture that taboos the reporting of sexual assault crime or that solely blames the victims for their predicament.

Perpetrators do not spot victims randomly. They carefully observe the victim and plan the crime.

"That's why we all need to be alert and prepare for responding to the incident of sexual assault. When the crime happens to victims, they often do not report to the authorities, but rather to somebody close to them such as friends and family members,

teachers, and school counselors. We all can be advocates for those whom we care about," said Odashiro.

"This is the community we love and we want to make our living place safe and sound. There are things we can do to protect our friends, family members, and people in our community. Talk about sexual violence in your community," she said.

"When you encounter a victim, believe in her/his story. It is time to get involved. We can make a difference in our homes, schools, and communities," she added.

## Don't lose hope

*(The following is a true and personal account of a sexual as-*

*sault victim)*

"Born on Saipan, I grew up abroad for 18 years until I decided to come back to meet my other family members whom I have never had the chance to meet.

"During this time I was very excited and happy to finally come and be with my family who had promised to help me with education and employment. My excitement would soon turn to fear the first day I arrived.

"When I came to Saipan two years ago, I immediately became a victim of sexual assault by a relative, an uncle, on my first [night]. ... I went to one of my relatives who asked me how my first night was and I started crying. She also started to cry and told me that she knew

that this would happen even if I didn't told her what had happened to me.

"We talked for a while until she was ready to leave for the airport. I asked her to please take me to the church because I knew that people there could help me. I had nobody to turn to but the same church I used to go to abroad. I stayed with a family from this church for almost two weeks until I got sick and was admitted to the hospital.

"Social workers at the hospital assisted me and referred me to Guma' Esperansa. I moved into the shelter and was provided with services such as counseling, emotional support, finding a job, and assisting me in furthering my studies. Guma' Esperansa's management and staff helped me become strong and taught me not to be ashamed of what had happened to me because it was not my fault.

"I also became more educated about the crime of sexual assault by participating in community activities of the Northern Mariana Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence.

"I feel like a better person now and want to send a message out to victims who live in silence. I want them to speak out against sexual assault and not to be afraid or ashamed to tell anyone about what have happened to them. I also want to encourage other victims to come forward because there is help and people who are willing to give all the support you will need. For more information, call the Coalition at 234-3878 or for help, call the Karidat Victim Hotline at 234-5100." (PR)

## WIA participants complete work training at NMC

Fifteen individuals were recently recognized by the Northern Marianas College and the Workforce Investment Agency for completing the Basic Workforce Development Skills Training. The training on developing basic workforce skills was facilitated by NMC's Community Development Institute.

The individuals who completed the training make up the ninth cohort and the second batch of WIA participants to complete this year. The individuals are Jacin P. Ayuyu, Joseph P. Camacho, Franchida Lynn P. Delos Reyes, Kintirino Elieisar, Gwenavere D. Emiliano, Rushelle M. Gatchalian, Relihna R. Iakopus, Vicente A. Iriarte, Kathleen Joyce R. Lamorena, Azalea Keith M. Lanuza, Akira A. Nedlic, Shane L. Pua, Verlyn A. Santos, Primo Jebehn, and Jennalmae Palacios Borja.

The Basic Workforce Development Skills Training consists of courses that are designed to



NMC

Northern Mariana College Community Development Institute program manager Les Ogumoro, standing far left, and Workforce Investment Agency Case Manager Frances Torres, standing far right, pose for a group photo during a certificate awarding ceremony with many of the individuals who completed CDI's Basic Workforce Development Skills Training. The ceremony took place on April 29, 2011 at the NMC As Terlaje campus.

improve individual knowledge and specific skills. These short-term courses are geared around actual workforce needs and are based on course surveys, community need assessments, and employer interviews.

WIA is a federal program

designed to meet the needs of businesses, job seekers, and others who want to further their careers through employment training. Upon completing training at NMC, many of the participants are referred to businesses in both the public and

private sectors.

CDI is a program under the NMC Division of Community Programs and Services, or COMPASS, and has been providing a range of specialized academic courses, non-traditional courses, customized training,

outreach and extended program services, personal enrichment, and community-based learning that are accessible and affordable to the general public.

For more information regarding programs and services offered by CDI, visit their office

at the NMC As Terlaje campus in Building P, or contact them at 234-5498 ext. 1010. You may also send an email to CDI program manager Les Ogumoro-Uludong at logumoro@nmcnet.edu or log on to www.nmcnet.edu. (NMC)



# Opinion

Hafa Adali

## Saipan Tribune

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### EDITORIAL

## Bin Laden photos: They're pictures, not trophies

Society overwhelmingly is the beneficiary when information is readily available and freely shared. But that benefit is not absolute. President Obama is acting responsibly in refusing to release graphic photographs of Osama bin Laden's body. Some of the president's arguments are more persuasive than others, but those who would have him publicize the photos have almost no compelling argument.

After a debate among his advisers, Obama decided not to make the photos public because, as he put it in a television interview, "it is very important for us to make sure that very graphic photos of somebody who was shot in the head are not floating around as an incitement to additional violence (or) as a propaganda tool." He added: "That's not who we are. You know, we don't trot out this stuff as trophies."

The release of the photos might not be any more a spur to anti-American violence than the simple fact of bin Laden's death, though we would defer to the intelligence community on that question. We're likewise skeptical of the notion that publication of the photos would lead to an extreme surge in anti-American propaganda, though that too is possible.

Obama's best argument is that it would be unseemly for the United States to flaunt photos of bin Laden as "trophies." Whether such triumphalism would incite unrest is not the point. Like the decision to give bin Laden a dignified burial at sea, the refusal to disseminate graphic photographs bespeaks this country's conviction—admittedly sometimes honored in the breach—that war is not an excuse to degrade the enemy. Bin Laden was a vicious terrorist, but that is no cause for desecration of his remains—or the exposition of his wounds.

The principal argument for releasing the photos is that their publication would rebut theories that bin Laden is alive. The credible counterargument is that skeptics about Bin Laden's death—not all of them, but a significant majority—will be unpersuaded by release of the photos and will claim that they were doctored. Regardless of the evidence, they will persist in their denial—just as some "birthers" have been unpersuaded by Obama's release of his long-form birth certificate.

The time may come when these photographs will be made available to the public. In the current environment, in which bin Laden's heirs continue to threaten the United States, the president is right to keep these "trophies" under wraps.

(c) 2011, Los Angeles Times



## Is Pope John Paul II fit for sainthood?

On Sunday, an estimated 1.5 million people crowded into St. Peter's Square and surrounding streets to celebrate the beatification of Karol Wojtyla, who as Pope John Paul II reigned for more than a quarter of a century as pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church.

Beatification is the penultimate step in the process that confers sainthood, and the church has suspended its normal rules to accelerate John Paul II's elevation to that honor. In the Catholic tradition, saints are people whose demonstration of "heroic virtue" makes them worthy of emulation and veneration throughout the universal church. Before the church formalized the process of canonization, saints simply were proclaimed by those who admired them, and something like that already is occurring with the Polish-born pontiff, whose beatification celebration—like his funeral six years ago—rang with chants of "santo subito": sainthood now.

As a recent Marist Poll of Americans found, he remains an ecclesiastical rock star: Of respondents, 82 percent of Catholics and 59 percent of all Americans believe John Paul II was one of history's best popes; 90 percent of U.S. Catholics approve his beatification, as do 75 percent of Americans, whatever their faith.

In the face of such adulation of a man in so many ways so admirable, it seems almost churlish to wonder how well this approving crowd listened to or read what John Paul II preached and wrote, or how many regard the man and his legacy as part of a delightfully archaic pageant with amorously "spiritual" overtones.

Those Catholics attentive to the substance of John Paul II's pontificate and legacy—as embodied in the reign of his longtime collaborator, Joseph Ratzinger, now Pope Benedict XVI—tend to be divided on Sunday's ceremony. The two pontiffs' admirers see them as heroic figures who have restored traditional notions of sanctity and moral authority. Those with reservations see them as reactionaries bent on restoring a hollow and corrosive authoritarianism.

As the dissident Swiss theologian Hans Kung told the Frankfurter Rundschau: "John Paul II is universally praised as someone who fought for peace and human rights. But his preaching to the outside world was in total contrast with the way he ran the church from inside, with an authoritarian pontificate which suppressed the rights of both women and theologians. ... Wojtyla and Ratzinger are the people most responsible for the chronic

By **TIM RUTTEN**  
Los Angeles Times

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sickness of today's Catholic Church."

Part of that sickness, of course, stems from the sexual abuse scandals that continue to be revealed in one country after another, and to flare anew. There is little doubt that John Paul II was obtuse and derelict in his handling of the crisis, perhaps because, as his defenders argue, sexual misconduct charges were so frequently fabricated against clerics by communist authorities in his native Poland. Still, difficult questions remain about his close association—and that of members of his household—to moneyed sexual predators like the now-disgraced founder of the Legionaries of Christ.

Equally troubling are continuing attempts to bring the church's theologians and more outspoken bishops to heel, an effort that began under John Paul II with the repression of Latin America's leading liberation theologians. Many Catholics worry about a Vatican that fires an Australian bishop for speaking in favor of ordaining women and married men, but declines to act against a Belgian prelate who unapologetically admits to molesting young boys. Many are troubled too by the U.S. Catholic bishops—all conservatives appointed by the last two popes—who attempt to force theologians to resume the old practice of submitting their work to the local prelate for approval before publication.

Although it's true that not everything about a saint's life need be blameless, there's also a reason so few popes are made saints. Pius X, made a saint in 1954, was the first in centuries. Canonization in the Catholic Church always has a political significance. John Paul II set out to remake the canon of saints, as he did the church's hierarchy, and beatified an astonishing 1,340 men and women, canonizing 483, more than all the popes in the previous 500 years together.

Even so, John Paul II's legacy is, for many Catholics, best summed up by one of his own favorite phrases: "a sign of contradiction."



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Money will never buy immortality

By D.J. TICE

STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

The basic trouble with health care is simple—and disagreeable. Our reluctance to face this fundamental problem is preventing a truly frank debate over how to control runaway health care costs that are pushing America toward economic crisis.

A debate of sorts is underway, of course, largely between President Obama and Republican Rep. Paul Ryan of Wisconsin, chairman of the House budget committee. Focused on the ruinously mounting costs of the federal government's big health-care programs—Medicare and Medicaid—their faceoff is a good thing so far as it goes. Unfortunately, the discussion quickly goes in circles thanks to a nearly universal eagerness to ignore the big tragic reality about health care.

What I mean is absurdly obvious, but apparently it needs to be said: The basic trouble with health care is that it always fails in the end.

Naturally enough, what people want from health care is health—and life. Yet what each of us gets, sooner or later, is sickness and death. Until there is more sign of this ultimate grim reality changing, the cost of chasing the rainbow's end can only grow.

It's worth noticing that we don't have quite this problem with other good things we desire. At least in an advanced economy like America's, we can produce enough food, enough housing, enough clothing, enough cell phones (and then some). It's human nature to always want more and better, but in most things basic needs can be met and people can be left to decide how much of their incomes to spend on various things.

We have inequality and poverty problems. Not everyone can af-

ford the food or clothing or housing they need.

But the difference is that with health care, no one, in the end, can get their most basic need met. Bill Gates and Warren Buffett, with all their billions, will eventually be unable to buy another day of wellness or life.

Foolishly obvious, yes—but we seem to be missing what this means. Even though we can't satisfy the demand for health, the health care industry can and does supply an endless cornucopia of treatments, drugs, devices, surgical techniques and therapies. Many of these are wonderful, extending and improving lives. Others provide more marginal and temporary benefits. Some are breathtakingly expensive, others pretty cheap—and sometimes the cheap ones give more benefit to more people than do the costliest.

But because the supply of health care services just keeps expanding, without conquering sickness and death, there is no place for spending to stop increasing. Unless, somehow, we decide when enough is enough.

This is the real, painful challenge of health care reform. To limit costs ultimately has to mean limiting care. How to limit care most wisely and justly—through central regulation, market competition, or some blend—is the real debate we should be having. But we're stuck trying to convince one another that only the "other side" would ever think of asking anybody to give up anything in health care.

In his deficit speech last month, Obama said the health reform law passed last year will "drive greater efficiency" and "reduce unnecessary spending" largely because it will "change the way we pay for health care." And if costs continue to soar, despite this much-discussed miracle cure of "payment reform"? Then, Obama said, "this approach will ... make additional savings by further improving Medicare."

Further improving Medicare? That's our last resort, if all else fails?

Ryan was equally in denial in a recent newspaper column. He wrote that his plan to essentially privatize federal health programs by turning them into voucher systems was all about "using competition to weed out inefficient providers, improve the quality of health care for seniors and drive costs down." We won't feel a thing.

Yet Obama and Ryan, with their sugar-laced euphemisms, aren't the only ones recoiling from facing facts. Commenting on the competing cost-cutting plans, the New York Times worried that "it is not clear that ... goal can be met without harming providers or beneficiaries." The Economist fretted that it could mean "reducing the quality of care or passing more costs along to patients."

It's enough (almost) to make you pity the politicians—this apparent need to pretend that efficiency or accountability or purchasing power or competition or some magic incantation can cut trillions of dollars from future health care spending (because that's what we have to do) without denying anybody care, or costing anybody more, or even pinching providers (unless they're "inefficient").

The bomb-throwers warning of "death panels" were, after all, onto something. However crudely, they at least confronted the truth that limiting costs means asking people to make peace with unwelcome limits to what we can accomplish in health care. That their concerns were labeled not just exaggerated but utterly ridiculous showed that America is not yet ready for a serious health care debate.

No doubt great efficiencies in health care could be found. Finding them will be the secret to enjoying all the health-improving wonders America can actually afford.

But until this debate more openly confronts the fact that what we can afford in health care has boundaries, it will hardly be worth having.

*D.J. Tice is the Minneapolis Star Tribune's commentary editor. Readers may send him email at dtice@startribune.com.*

## Letters to the Editor

# Stanley's last stand

Hi, Stanley, it's me again. I can't believe you actually said "the U.S. has been screwing us for a long time." Must've been a typo, can't trust those "foreign" reporters to get it right, can we? And still want to secede from the United States of America, do you? It's a bizarre sort of fascination to observe your bulldog-ness, or as the writer Frank K. from Arizona referred to, your "billygoat"-ness in what you do. But of course he (they) who doesn't agree with you is labeled a racist, bigot, outsider/statesider who enjoy "bashing island leaders" (you). And wow, did you ever lay it on that poor guy Paul B. from Washington, played that race card again, that "our-people-our-land" thing pumped up with your lofty ideals of a greater tomorrow! I loved it, shows practice. But did he ever come down hard on you! You might not want to tussle with this guy, Stanley, or that local gal Karla M. from CK who speaks your language and probably watched you all those early years others don't know about; she's got your number, too. But let all that palpitating-heart and cursing roll off your back, it's not good for your health Stanley, at your age, c'mon don't be so touchy; it comes with the office.

Currently, as I read your latest provocation, you now humbly offer another look at the relationship with the U.S. citing "evolution" and "total realignment, regional coalition, renegotiated Covenant..." What happened to the hell-bent guy I knew years ago who swore (literally) up and down for "full independence" from the U.S.? It's the age thing I'll bet. You want to leave a legacy you can call your very own. It's good to change course now and then, you agree? Then there was the "2nd Political Status Commission" meeting you called for selected members who voiced their support for your latest gambit. Nice show. Most of them in their 60s and 70s, lamenting the loss of the good old days, were they? Is this the same cortege that blew away \$2 billion of free federal monies since 1976 and now want independence with a continuing pipeline to the U.S. Treasury? As long as your gang understands that with the feds and their cash gone there shall be no jobs, no paychecks, no junkets, no hospitals, no cops, and in your case of showboating no privileged speeches. You'd be out of a job. Got them convinced, have you?

As always, Stanley, if deep down in your heart you truly believe in independence I can help you set it up. But let's do it right. Go for world coverage—the major media, of course, a spiffy website of you and the handful of *man'amko* around a picnic table on the beach smiling and barbecuing, then do the Tweet, your very own

Facebook even! Gather your group together with some candles and sing some songs of sacrifices they (you) must endure along with a doubtful new "revisited" future for our community. I'll graciously provide the light for the candles, join in the harmony and feast and then at the magical stroke of midnight, torch all of your blue passports at the appropriate moment. Drama makes good press! And that's the price of being a bully.

Lee Andersen

Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

# A small suggestion

As a family member who has relatives that cannot afford to pay for the processing of their spouse's application fee for green card, I am recommending that we start seeking financial assistance from our lawmakers and the community to prevent deportation of our spouses. I'm recommending that we form an organization to fund-raise for spouse application fees, instead of waiting for our leaders who don't really understand U.S. immigration laws, which can only be changed by the government of the United States.

Yes, many guest workers have been committing themselves to work for our homes, as well as establishing their way to stay with us. The U.S. government will never understand us, unless we show proof of records and statistics that show how the departure of long-term guest workers will affect our safety, health, and welfare, with this world economic crisis. Telling them about your human rights will not convince them enough to grant you that status, but showing them how you can help improve the general health, safety, and welfare of CNMI residents will convince them enough to sustain everyone. But since many employers and guest workers failed to follow DHS regulations, we are now in a lot of mess.

I'm also recommending that employers get together and start looking for solutions to retain their employees, who they really need at this time of economic hardship. One way is to start creating transition programs to hire locals and train them to replace guest workers in case they leave. Guest workers need to support this program too because back in the '80s I remember that your purpose was to work for us and train local residents to be able to replace you in case you leave or resign. And by supporting this program you have a purpose to stay. Local residents who are unemployed can take advantage of this program and help build our economy and regain employers' and guest workers' trust. And members of the Legislature start collecting positive data that will support this request and submit it to Congressman Kilili. Yes, it is sad for many of you out there, but a

law is a law; it cannot be changed for one state only. So start now.

Believe me, I just came back from the States, and they have the same issues, and worse problems than ours. So, to be safe, we need to support each other, not battle for human rights. Some have gone to the U.S. Congress to report the abuse of guest workers. Did you know what some of these guest workers do in the U.S.? Some steal identity, some are smuggled in containers where some died inside, and human trafficking that is worse than what is reported about the CNMI. So, start working together and gain from each other. Humans work together, not fight. Let our lord God almighty do the judging and let us follow His laws.

Winnie Atalig,  
San Jose, Tinian

# It's time to come home

If you're like me then I'm talking to you. If you're like me then you are one of the many who was born or raised in the CNMI, went away to college or join the military, and never came back with the exception of a vacation paid for by mom and dad. If you're like me you want to make a difference in the islands of the CNMI. If you're like me you want change to happen now. If you're like me you love your family, you love your home, and that home and family is the CNMI. And when you love you will do whatever it takes to keep that love alive. If you're like me you know that you need an army of like-minded people. I'm not the brightest nor an eloquent speaker nor a great writer but I know that I am someone who can make a difference in the life of another. I am passionate and motivated. I am just one person and I cannot do everything. Because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse something I can do. And that is coming home. How much longer can we complain, blame the government or point fingers? How much longer can you endure to see your home and your family be destroyed by an economic depression, devastated by nepotistic politicians, or slaughtered by ignorance, arrogance, lack of action, lack of love? I hope not much longer. It's time to take responsibility. It's time to act. It's time to love out loudly. It's time to come home.

P.S. I am currently an Alaskan resident but soon to be a Saipan resident once again.






Jeaniffer H. Cubangbang  
Kodiak, AK



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°	▲ 88° ▼ 77°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 87 ▼ 78
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 83 ▼ 78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 73
Kosrae	Rain	▲ 83 ▼ 77
Majuro	Showers	▲ 83 ▼ 76

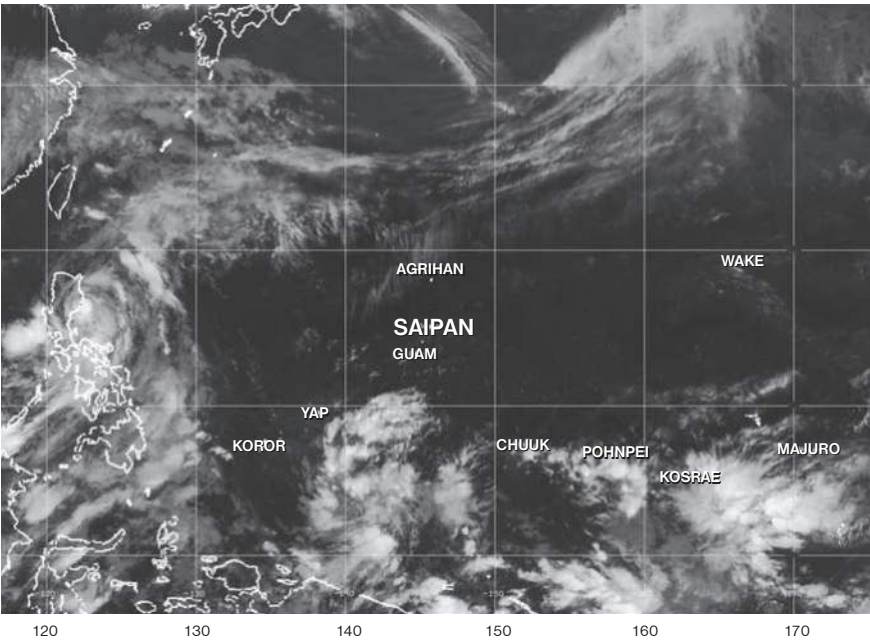
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 67 ▼ 60
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 82 ▼ 54
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 84 ▼ 79
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲ 83 ▼ 72
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 70 ▼ 51
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 69 ▼ 54
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 51 ▼ 46
Miami	Sunny	▲ 91 ▼ 76
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲ 69 ▼ 52
Osaka	Showers	▲ 66 ▼ 60
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲ 77 ▼ 52
Pusan	Showers	▲ 63 ▼ 56
Rome	Sunny	▲ 76 ▼ 53
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 64 ▼ 48
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 66 ▼ 51
Seoul	Showers	▲ 71 ▼ 56
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 61 ▼ 58
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲ 73 ▼ 51

### Tides

Saipan Harbor				
1:25 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet	
7:09 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet	
11:31 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet	
6:58 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet	

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, MAY 9, 2011**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough stretches eastward from 2N134E through a weak circulation well southeast of Yap near 2N146E to end at EQ155E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring near the trough and circulation southeast of Yap and Koror or south of a line from 3N135E to 7N141E to 5N151E. A surface trough extends northwestward from 2N161E to near Pohnpei at 7N158E. Another surface trough south of Kosrae extends northwestward from 1N168E to 4N165E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found just south of Pohnpei and across Kosrae south of 6N between 157E and 167E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers south of Majuro between 1N and 5N from 169E to 180.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:50 AM	6:37 PM
Wednesday	5:50 AM	6:37 PM
Thursday	5:50 AM	6:37 PM
Friday	5:49 AM	6:38 PM
Saturday	5:49 AM	6:38 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:33 AM	
Wednesday	12:30 PM	12:28 AM
Thursday	1:26 PM	1:12 AM
Friday	2:23 PM	1:56 AM
Saturday	3:22 PM	2:40 AM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
  - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
  - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
  - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
  - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
  - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

### REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
  - Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
  - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
  - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
  - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.
- HOW TO SUBMIT**
  - E-mail: [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com) or [jayvee\\_vallejera@saipantribune.com](mailto:jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com).
  - Fax: (670) 235-3740
  - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
  - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2011

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6	C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	5K389	1:35pm	2:25pm	1, 4, 6
5K382	6:00pm	6:50pm	2, 5, 7	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily	C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:00am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily	DL288	8:05pm	12:35am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ606	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
MU590	4:30am	7:20am	2, 6	MU589	8:50pm	3:30am+1	1, 5
3U8648	5:45am	8:50am	1, 5	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 4	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM	DL172/288	7:45am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
DL287/173	6:00am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT	C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
			via GUM	OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
C09313/933	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM				via ICN
C09603/893	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 7
OZ604/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7				via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM	5K169	9:55am	5:00pm	2, 5, 7
5K168	3:25pm	6:35pm	1, 4, 6	OZ750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ604/749	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN				via ICN
				OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
				OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
							via ICN
				C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; CZ: 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana				ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)			

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
	17:50	18:20	Daily				
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				<b>Tinian-Saipan</b>			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Saipan-Rota	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



# Business

## Shortages choke Tripoli as sanctions take hold

**TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)**—Cars sat abandoned in miles-long fuel lines, motorists traded angry screams with soldiers guarding gas stations, and many shops were closed Sunday on what should have been a work day.

In ever-multiplying ways, residents in the Libyan capital are feeling the sting of shortages from uprising-related disruptions of supplies.

The shortages are a dramatic sign of how Libya's nearly 3-month-old rebellion—and

the resulting chaos—is affecting daily life in Moammar Gadhafi's stronghold and other western areas of Libya still under his rule. International sanctions have begun to bite, many supply routes are unstable, and there are shortages of skilled people in some sectors to keep the city running smoothly.

Yet the deprivations—however irksome—pale in comparison to the situation in the port city of Misrata, the only rebel stronghold in western Libya. It has been under siege by land for



In this photo taken through a vehicle window on a Libyan government controlled tour, motorists wait to fill up their cars with fuel, in Tripoli, Libya, Sunday, May 8, 2011.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Scuffle at Apple store iPad launch in Beijing

**BEIJING (AP)**—A Chinese man says he saw a fight between an Apple store employee and a customer amid a frenzy to buy the newly launched iPad 2. Thirty-year-old Wang Ming says Saturday's scuffle at the Apple store in Beijing's Sanlitun district was between a "foreign" Apple staffer and a Chinese customer. Wang says he heard that the customer had cut into a line and was a scalper. Unconfirmed Chinese news reports said three or four customers were injured. Wang says he was passing by when a bottle hit his head, causing a gash.

#### Turkey hosts forum on poorest nations

**ISTANBUL (AP)**—The acute problems of the world's poorest countries form the agenda of a U.N.-backed conference this week in Turkey, which has sought to balance its traditional Western alliances with growing ties to Africa, the Middle East and other developing regions. The conference of "least-developed countries" lists 48 members, including Afghanistan, where a U.S.-led coalition is fighting Taliban insurgents, and Yemen, where at least 140 protesters have died during months of demonstrations aimed at ousting the president. Up to 10,000 delegates are expected to attend the five-day forum, which starts Monday.

two months, with hundreds of civilians killed, and Gadhafi's forces are now trying to block access to the port that is Misrata's only lifeline.

In Tripoli, the shortages were obvious, even to Western reporters who may only leave their hotel with a government minder and guard. It is less clear what the eventual impact might be on Gadhafi's ability to rule.

An engineer based in Tripoli said Libyan TV blames the shortages on NATO, which is providing military muscle against Gadhafi, while average residents blame hardships

on the regime. The engineer requested anonymity, saying he did not want to provoke the government.

The spokesman for the rebel administration in the eastern city of Benghazi, where there is no fuel shortage, blamed Tripoli's shortages squarely on Gadhafi.

"He takes all the gasoline for his forces, and that is why there is none left for anyone else," Abdel-Hafidh Ghoga told journalists.

In some ways, Tripoli appeared to be divided into those with government perks and those without.

In an hours-long tour of the capital, cars decked with pictures of Gadhafi—his arms raised and streaks of light emerging from behind him—muscle into miles-long lines for gasoline. A minivan carrying Western reporters also pushed in.

A young black-uniformed attendant clutched a thick wad of Libyan currency, suggesting that black market rates for fuel were running far higher than the government's set price of 12 cents (150 dirhams) a liter.

Shortages were apparent in other ways: a few dozen people crowded around a bakery in

central Tripoli, unsure if its good were being depleted. A minder said most of the bakers were Egyptian laborers who fled the country as unrest worsened.

One translator for the foreign reporters looked frustrated when, soon after he lit a cigarette, a driver told him to extinguish it and rejoin reporters in their vehicle.

"Do you know how much these cost?" he shot at the driver.

He later explained: a pack of Marlboros—a fancy brand in Libya—now cost six dinars, up from 2.5 dinars before unrest began three months ago.

## Payroll deductions camouflaged, but still illegal

**Question: My employer used to deduct cash register shortages, breakages, customers leaving without paying and other things from my co-workers and my paychecks. Recently he stopped doing that, but now has us pay it separately from our pockets. I read your previous articles on deductions and maybe he did, too. Is this new way of charging us legal?**

I guess it's not strange that this topic should come up again, as I have been receiving word from employees in several different types of businesses that this has been happening recently. Employers who were previously making inappropriate deductions from paychecks have changed to having the employees reimburse the loss in cash. I hesitate to believe that they really think that keeping it off the pay record makes it any more legal. The answer to the question is, if you are covered by the FLSA and are making minimum wage, or if the repayment brings your salary below minimum wage, it is illegal and in violation of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act.

I am happy that my articles are apparently being read, both by employees and employers. The intent of writing the articles has been to provide answers to HR-related questions and to provide good management advice to both employees and employers. It is frustrating, however, and saddening, to see that it often results in efforts to get around the law than complying with it, and to still charge off the employer's costs of doing business to their employees. I covered this topic in two articles, Jan. 25 and Feb. 15 of this year, because it is a common violation against the lowest paid of our employees, who seldom speak up from fear of losing their jobs. You can view the articles by going to the *Tribune* archives.

In the Jan. 25 article I wrote:

Some examples of common problem deductions are provided in the U.S. Department of Labor's Fact Sheet #16: Deductions from Wages for Uniforms and Other Facilities under the Fair Labor Standards Act:

■ A minimum wage employee working as a cashier is illegally re-

quired to reimburse the employer for a cash drawer shortage.

■ An employer improperly requires tipped employees to pay for customers who walk out without paying their bills or for incorrectly totaled bills.

■ An employer furnishes elaborate uniforms to employees and makes them responsible for having the uniforms cleaned.

■ (other examples were provided but are omitted here)

Such deductions are illegal if they bring the employee's salary below minimum wage or cut into overtime compensation. Further, employers may not avoid FLSA minimum wage and overtime requirements by having the employee reimburse them in cash for the cost of such items in lieu of deducting the cost from the employee's wages.

Read the last sentence above. This information is quoted directly from the USDOL Fact Sheet #16. I didn't make it up. Check it out at [www.dol.gov/whd/regs/compliance/whdfs16.pdf](http://www.dol.gov/whd/regs/compliance/whdfs16.pdf).

As this has now been the topic in three articles, let me be a bit more blunt than usual:

To the employees: First, you need to determine if the FLSA covers you. Google up "Am I covered by the FLSA" and open the E-laws FLSA Advisor URL and follow the instructions. If you do not appear to be covered, go to the USDOL office in the Marina Heights II Building and see what coverage you might have. If you are covered by the FLSA, all I have written applies to you. Now ask yourself if you are ready to do something about these deductions. If the answer is yes, then perhaps it's time that you spoke up to your employer or submitted a grievance (complaint) in writing. If you have an HR office, go see the HR manager. All such deductions are illegal and you are due to be repaid all moneys taken from you for the past two years from the date of your complaint to the employer. If the employer refuses to stop the deductions or to pay back the money taken from you, or either takes or threatens to take action against you, go see the USDOL wage and hour representative. It doesn't matter that you might have signed an agreement to allow these deductions as that, also, is illegal.

### HR MATTERS

By **FRANK GIBSON**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Frank L. Gibson, SPHR, GPHR, owner of HR Support, CNMI, a Saipan-based training and consulting firm, has been a resident of the CNMI for more than 15 years. One of the founding members of the CNMI Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management, he has worked both as a line-manager of human resources and in the Human Resource Office.*



To the employers: I would like to think that very few of you are guilty of these deductions, but so many workers tell me that it is happening to them. If you are deducting, you know what the law requires. Comply with it. Set a proper example in the business community. Treat your employees fairly. Pay them what you owe them, now and what was taken from them. Some are paying 1-2 hours of their salary in gas just to get to work and back home each day. Treat the problems as management problems, not payroll issues. Correct the problem, don't punish the employee. Determine why the problem occurs, increase management efforts, provide training, transfer the employee to another position, if necessary or, if the problem can't be corrected and the employee is the problem, take appropriate administrative actions. Also bear in mind that the USDOL might require three years of damages repayment if they consider your actions willful, plus possibly seek additional damages.

To the HR staff: If this is happening in your company, do something about it. One of HR's responsibilities is to keep the boss out of trouble and another is to ensure that employees are treated fairly.

By the way, these articles have discussed deductions from overtime eligible employees. Inappropriate deductions from the salary of an overtime-exempt employee that affects his or her salaried status could result in the loss of the overtime-exempt status.



## Nation

## More evacuations in Memphis as Mississippi rises

**MEMPHIS, Tennessee (AP)**—The swollen Mississippi River has swamped houses in Memphis and threatens to consume many more, but its rise has been slow enough that some people were clinging to their normal lives just a bit longer. That much was clear Sunday from an unexpected smell—barbecue—in a neighborhood that already lost three houses.

With the river just feet from her single-story home, Shirley Woods had the grill going in the backyard, cooking ribs, pork chops, chicken and hot dogs. She was getting ready to make potato salad.

When she woke up at first light, she was prepared to leave if the Mississippi had gotten high enough, but she decided she had time to at least celebrate Mother's Day here with relatives.

"I'll give it another day, and if it comes up much higher, we're getting out of here," Woods said.

Memphis residents have been abandoning low-lying homes



A barge travels up the Mississippi River Sunday, May 8, 2011 in Memphis, Tenn. as flood waters continue to rise.

for days as the dangerously surging river threatened to crest at 48 feet (14.63 meters), just shy of the 48.7-foot (14.84-meter) record, set by a devastating 1937 flood.

Officials went door-to-door Sunday, warning about 240 people to get out before the river reaches its expected peak Tuesday. In all, residents in more than 1,300 homes have been told to go, and some 370 people were staying in shelters.

But while some evacuated

their homes, others came as spectators. At Beale Street, the famous thoroughfare known for blues, dozens gawked and snapped photos as water pooled at the end of the road. Traffic was heavy downtown on a day the streets would normally be quiet.

The river is "probably the biggest tourist attraction in Memphis," said Scott Umstead, who made the half-hour drive from Collierville with his wife and their three children.

Flood waters were about a

half-mile (800 meters) from the street's world-famous nightspots, which are on higher ground.

The river already reached record levels in some areas upstream, thanks to heavy rains and snowmelt. It spared Kentucky and northwest Tennessee any catastrophic flooding and

no deaths have been reported there, but some low lying towns and farmland along the banks of the river have been inundated.

And there's tension farther south in the Mississippi Delta and Louisiana, where the river could create a slow-developing disaster.

There's so much water in the

Mississippi that the tributaries that feed into it are also backed up, creating some of the worst flood problems so far.

Along the overflowing Nonconnah Creek in south Memphis, Cedric Blue has watched water engulf three homes on his street. Blue has lived in his one-story house since he was born, and fears the rising water will wash away a lifetime of memories.

A yellow "No Outlet" street sign near his house was nearly covered. A garbage can floated in the high water.

Blue was angry that he hadn't seen any officials in his neighborhood.

"I just want a new life and relocation," he said. "I would like the elected officials to come down here to see this with their own eyes and see what we're going through."

## In tornado-stricken Ala., shock yields to grief

**BIRMINGHAM (AP)**—The 7-year-old girl plugged her ears and shook her head as her mother told a Red Cross social worker about their brush with death. Nakarah Britt didn't want to relive the terror of a tornado bearing down on their Birmingham apartment.

A few blocks away, Rosalee Taylor was having trouble eating and sleeping.

"I can't say I'm holding up," she said as family members picked over the remains of her flattened house, "but I'm holding on."

The twisters that clobbered the South about a week and a half ago, reducing entire neighborhoods and towns to rubble and killing hundreds, also left emotional wreckage. Storm survivors are just beginning to get over the initial shock of having lived through the deadliest cluster of tornadoes since the Depression. As reality sets in, some of them will experience

grief, anger, anxiety and helplessness in the coming months.

A small army of therapists has been sent to hard-hit areas throughout Alabama, setting up shop in mental health centers and emergency shelters and heading out to ruined neighborhoods to help people cope with the loss of loved ones, the destruction of homes and possessions, and the monumental task of rebuilding.

"The need for counseling and crisis intervention is going to rise dramatically. And it'll be ongoing," said Zelia Baugh, Alabama's commissioner of mental health.

Baugh's agency and the University of Alabama are temporarily offering free crisis counseling at Bryce Hospital and other locations in hard-hit Tuscaloosa, staffed by university faculty and graduate students. Community-based mental health centers throughout Alabama, meanwhile, have been

authorized to hire as many temporary counselors as they need, with the federal government picking up the tab. They're being supplemented by volunteers arriving from around the country.

Last week, a Red Cross mental health team toured hard-hit areas in the Birmingham area, ready to lend a sympathetic ear and comforting words.

In their bright red vests were Suzanne Rudolph, 54, a psychiatric nurse from Charlotte, N.C., along with Susan Connors, 67, a retired social worker from Madison, Wis., and Linda Coordes, 39, a social worker from Kelso, Wash.

Rudolph knows first-hand how small gestures of support can make a big difference. She began volunteering in disaster zones after watching her own home burn to the ground in 1996. A Red Cross worker sat with her all night, holding her hand as she sobbed.

## Obama: 'Getting our man' outweighed risks of raid

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—President Barack Obama ordered the commando raid that killed terrorist leader Osama bin Laden after deciding the risks were outweighed by the possibility "of us finally getting our man" following a decade of frustration, he said in a Sunday broadcast interview.

The helicopter raid "was the longest 40 minutes of my life," Obama told CBS' "60 Minutes," with the possible exception of when his daughter Sasha became sick with meningitis as an infant.

Monitoring the commando raid operation in the White House Situation Room a week ago, Obama said he and top aides "had a sense of when gunfire and explosions took place" half-way around the world, and knew when one of the helicopters carrying Navy SEALs made an unplanned hard landing. "But we could not get information clearly about what was happening inside the compound," he said.

Public opinion polls have shown a boost in Obama's support in the days since the raid, and his re-election campaign was eager to draw attention to the interview.

Jim Messina, the president's campaign manager, emailed supporters encouraging them to watch the program. The note included a link to a listing of all of the network's local affiliates around the country—and another one requesting donations to Obama's re-election effort.

In the interview, Obama said that as nervous as he was about the raid, he didn't lose sleep over the possibility that bin Laden might be killed. Anyone who questions whether the terrorist

mastermind didn't deserve his fate "needs to have their head examined," he said.

Obama said bin Laden had "some sort of support network" inside Pakistan to be able to live for years at a high-security compound in Abbottabad, a city that houses numerous military facilities. But he stopped short of accusing Pakistani officials of harboring the man who planned the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks that killed nearly 3,000. "We don't know who or what that support network was. We don't know whether there might have been some people inside of government, people outside of government." He said the United States wanted to investigate further to learn the facts, "and more importantly, the Pakistani government has to investigate."

Some members of Congress have called for a cessation of U.S. aid to Pakistan, at least until it becomes clear what role, if any, the government played in bin Laden's ability to avoid detection for years. But Obama said that since the Sept. 11 attacks, "Pakistan has been a strong counter-terrorism partner with us" despite periodic disagreements.

The president was guarded in discussing any of the details of the raid, and offered no details that have not yet been made public.

Discussing his own role, he said the decision to order the raid was very difficult, in part because there was no certainty that bin Laden was at the compound, and also because of the risk to the SEALs.



In this undated image taken from video provided by the U.S. Department of Defense, a man who the American government says is Osama bin Laden watches television in a video released on Saturday, May 7, 2011.

## ACROSS THE NATION

## Ariz. seeks online donations to build border fence

**PHOENIX (AP)**—Arizona lawmakers want more fence along the border with Mexico—whether the federal government thinks it's necessary or not. They've got a plan that could get a project started using online donations and prison labor. If they get enough money, all they would have to do is get cooperation from landowners and construction could begin as soon as this year. Gov. Jan Brewer recently signed a bill that sets the state on a course that begins with launching a website to raise money for the work, said state Sen. Steve Smith, the bill's sponsor.

## Service resumes after NJ train crash hurts 34

**HOBOKEN, N.J. (AP)**—A commuter train from New York pulling into a station for its final stop crashed into the bumpers at the end of the tracks Sunday morning, injuring 34 people, shutting down service and putting Monday

morning's commute in jeopardy. None of the injuries in the PATH train's 8:30 a.m. crash was considered life-threatening, though several victims were taken away on stretchers or put in neck braces as a precaution, Hoboken Mayor Dawn Zimmer said. The injured, who mostly sustained cuts and bruises, were taken to three area hospitals for treatment, and most, if not all, were expected to be released later in the day.

## Houston to Chicago flight diverts in St. Louis

**CHICAGO (AP)**—A Continental Airlines flight from Houston to Chicago diverted in St. Louis after officials say a passenger tried to open a plane door during the flight. Continental spokeswoman Julie King says Flight No. 546 landed Sunday around 1:30 p.m. at Lambert St. Louis International Airport and was grounded about an hour before leaving for Chicago's O'Hare International Airport. Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Lynn Lunsford confirms an "unruly" passenger tried to open the door.



## Asia

# PH storm kills 9 people, threatens north

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—Tropical storm Aere threatened the Philippines' agricultural north Monday after leaving at least nine people dead and pummeling the eastern coast and the capital with fierce winds and rain that sparked floods and landslides, officials said.

Aere slammed into eastern Catanduanes province with winds of 53 miles (85 kilometers) per hour and gusts of 62 mph (100 kph) early Sunday, then roared toward nine northern Luzon Island provinces, retaining its strength. It toppled trees, roughed up Manila Bay and rattled nerves overnight in the congested capital.

Officials warned villagers to stay away from mountainous regions prone to landslides

and low-lying communities that could be swamped by flash floods. Fishermen and ferries were advised to stay ashore along the storm's path.

Aere triggered landslides and floods, disrupted transportation and knocked out power in several towns in the eastern Bicol region Sunday. It struck with about a month left in the summer vacation season, when many students and their families trek to beach and mountain resorts.

"We're advising residents in high-risk areas to pre-emptively evacuate before the storm hits," said Chito Castro, spokesman of the government's disaster-response agency.

The nine dead reported by officials included three people

who perished in a house that was buried by a landslide in Camarines Sur province's Balatan township at dawn Sunday. Four people drowned in the provinces of Albay, Catanduanes and Leyte. A man was electrocuted in a flooded community and another died in a truck accident amid stormy weather, officials said.

Authorities helped evacuate thousands of villagers over the weekend in farming communities at the base of Mayon volcano in Albay, where heavy rain threatened to cause mudslides. Many more fled their flooded homes in the province, about 212 miles (340 kilometers) southeast of Manila.

Tons of ash have been deposited on Mayon's slope

from past eruptions, and mudslides caused by a typhoon in 2006 buried entire villages, leaving about 1,600 people dead and missing, regional disaster-response director Bernardo Alejandro said.

Aere has caused more than 50 domestic and international flights to be canceled or diverted.

President Benigno Aquino III delayed his flight to Manila from a regional summit in Indonesia by a day, to Monday, due to the weather.

Lightning struck a Philippine Airlines plane at Manila's international airport during a thunderstorm late Saturday, slightly injuring nine airport ground

staff. The Airbus 320 was not damaged, and the crew and passengers were not harmed, the airline said.

Aere, the second storm to batter the Philippines this year, is expected to blow away from the country on Thursday. About 20 typhoons and storms lash the Philippines each year.

## US says it wants access to bin Laden widows

**ISLAMABAD (AP)**—The United States wants access to Osama bin Laden's three widows and any intelligence material its commandos left behind at the al-Qaida leader's compound, a top American official said in comments broadcast Sunday that could add a fresh sticking point in already frayed ties with Pakistan.

Information from the women, who remained in the house after the commandos killed bin Laden, might answer questions about whether Pakistan harbored the al-Qaida chief as many American officials are speculating. It could also reveal details about the day-to-day life of bin Laden, his actions since the invasion of Afghanistan in 2001 and the inner workings of al-Qaida.

The women, along with several children also picked up from the house, are believed to be in Pakistani army custody. A Pakistani army official declined to comment Sunday on the request, which U.S. National Security Ad-

viser Tom Donilon revealed on NBC's "Meet the Press."

The CIA and Pakistan's spy agency, known by the acronym ISI, have worked uneasily together in the past on counterterrorism, but the unilateral U.S. raid—done without Pakistan's advance knowledge—has exposed the deep mistrust that scars a complicated if vital partnership for both nations.

Even before the May 1 raid, the ISI said it was cutting cooperation with CIA to protest drone strikes close to the Afghan border, among other things. In the current environment, Pakistan could use the fact it has something Washington wants—bin Laden's widows—as leverage to reduce some of the pressure it is under.

Bin Laden was found in a large house close to a military academy in the army town of Abbottabad where he had been living for up to six years. His location raised U.S. suspicions that he had help from some Pakistani authorities, possibly

elements of the powerful army and intelligence services.

Donilon said Washington had seen no evidence that the Pakistani government had been colluding with bin Laden—the public line taken by most U.S. officials since the raid, including President Barack Obama in comments also broadcast Sunday.

"But they need to investigate that," Donilon said. "And they need to provide us with intelligence, by the way, from the compound that they've gathered, including access to Osama bin Laden's three wives, whom they have in ... custody."

Donilon also said Pakistani authorities had collected other evidence from the house which the United States wanted to "work with them on assessing." U.S. commandos managed to seize a large and valuable intelligence haul that included videos, telephone numbers and documents, along with the body of bin Laden, before flying back to Afghanistan, according to U.S. officials.



A highway patrol officer directs the traffic as motorists negotiate a flooded portion of a highway at suburban Makati city, east of Manila, in the Philippines Sunday May 8, 2011 following a heavy downpour spawned by tropical storm Aere.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Thai, Cambodian PMs fail to end border dispute

**JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)**—Southeast Asian leaders made little headway Sunday in helping Thailand and Cambodia end a deadly border dispute that could undermine peace and stability in the region as it pushes for economic integration. The prime ministers of the two feuding nations held talks Sunday—mediated by Indonesia's president—as part of efforts to hammer out a lasting cease-fire. But neither seemed in any mood to back down. "There's no conclusion," Thai Foreign Minister Kasit Piromya told reporters after the trilateral meeting, providing few details. "We'll need further talks after this."

#### Malaysian state plans ban on shark hunting

**KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)**—A Malaysian state on Borneo island is planning to ban shark fishing to bolster tourism and conserve a species hunted for its fins. Masidi Manjun, a Cabinet minister in Sabah state, estimates only about 20 percent of sharks spotted in the state 15 years ago are still left behind. He says foreign tourists have lodged complaints of cruel shark finning activities in local markets. Masidi said Monday the Sabah government hopes to amend the law to impose the shark fishing ban next year.

#### Manila police nab al-Qaida-linked militant at mall

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—Police in the Philippines say they have captured a militant with an al-Qaida-linked movement in an operation at a Manila shopping center. They say they police intelligence unit arrested Asdatul Sahirun on Sunday at a shopping mall in the capital's Malate tourist district. Sahirun is suspected member of the Philippines' Abu Sayyaf extremist movement. Authorities have been on alert for possible attacks following Osama bin Laden's killing in Pakistan.

#### Black box of Indonesian plane found under wreckage

**JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)**—Searchers on Sunday found more bodies and one black box from a passenger plane that crashed into the sea off eastern Indonesia with 25 people on board. The device from the Chinese-made Xian MA60 twin turboprop was found in waters about 50 feet to 66 feet (15 meters to 20 meters) deep, said Efendi Rajalao, chief of the local Search and Rescue Agency. The plane belonging to state-run Merpati Nusantara Airlines crashed in heavy rain Saturday in Kaimana Bay about 500 yards (meters) short of the runway at Kaimana's airport. It had come from Sorong, also in West Papua province.

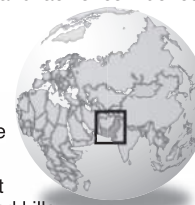


## Tracking a troubled relationship

Since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, the U.S. has courted Pakistan, needing that country in its fight against al-Qaida and global terrorism. But the relationship has been fraught with distrust and lack of confidence on both sides.

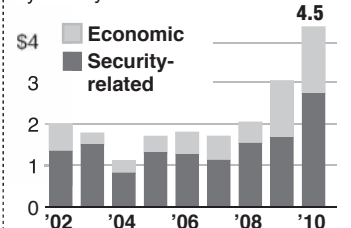
### Major events

- 2001** U.S. lifts some sanctions placed on Pakistan following its nuclear tests and 1999 coup and increases aid; under pressure, Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf offers to cooperate in terror fight
- 2002** Musharraf wins another five years in office, test fires missiles; al-Qaida-linked group kidnaps and kills U.S. journalist Daniel Pearl in Karachi; bomb in an Islamabad church kills five people, including two affiliated with the U.S. embassy
- 2003** Musharraf sends troops to the semiautonomous tribal areas in western Pakistan after U.S. commanders charge that al-Qaida and Taliban members are attacking coalition forces, then escaping to the Pakistani frontier; Pakistan arrests al-Qaida operatives, including Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, alleged to be the mastermind of the 9-11 attacks
- 2004** A.Q. Khan, father of Pakistan's nuclear program, confesses to supplying nuclear weapons technology to Iran, Libya and North Korea and is sentenced to house arrest
- 2005** U.S. provides humanitarian, military assistance after earthquake
- 2006** U.S. and Pakistani presidents exchange visits, reaffirm cooperation on security and economic issues
- 2007** Musharraf reelected, but imposes state of emergency fearing the supreme court will rule against him; he steps down as army chief, lifts the emergency, agrees to parliamentary elections; leader Benazir Bhutto assassinated
- 2008** Musharraf resigns; Bhutto's widower, Asif Ali Zardari, elected president
- 2009** Newly elected U.S. President Barack Obama adopts a new strategy, treating Afghanistan and Pakistan's border region as one war theater, and increases non-military aid; opponents argue that the strategy impinges on Pakistani sovereignty; Pakistan launches military operations in militant strongholds in tribal regions
- 2010** U.S. pledges aid following devastating floods
- 2011** U.S.-Pakistan relations deteriorate after CIA contractor Raymond Davis is arrested for killing two Pakistanis in Lahore; on May 1, U.S. forces kill Osama bin Laden in a hideout not far from Islamabad, deepening suspicions that Pakistan was complicit in hiding him



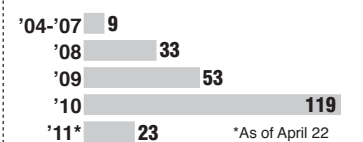
### The U.S. has given significant economic aid to Pakistan ...

U.S. aid to Pakistan, in billions, by fiscal year



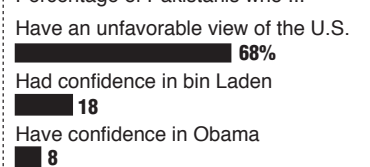
### ... but has also stepped up drone attacks to wipe out terrorists ...

U.S. drone strikes in Pakistan



### ... which have contributed to negative views of the U.S.

Percentage of Pakistanis who ...



© 2011 MCT

Source: Congressional Research Service, Institute for the Study of War, Council on Foreign Relations, Pew Global Attitudes survey of 2,000 Pakistanis, April 2010; Margin of error: +/- 3 percentage points, Chicago Tribune Graphic: Pat Carr



# World

## WORLD BRIEFS

### Pope in Venice, urges welcome for immigrants

**VENICE, Italy (AP)**—Pope Benedict XVI urged Italy on Sunday to welcome immigrants fleeing to its shores, invoking the historic role of Venice and the once influential church in nearby Aquileia as a cultural bridges during his two-day visit to northern Italy. “The churches created by Aquileia are called today to renew that ancient spiritual unity, in particular in light of the phenomenon of immigration and the new geopolitical circumstances,” Benedict said during his homily to more than 300,000 worshippers gathered in a vast park on the Venetian mainland.

### All 14 bodies recovered from Mexican mine blast

**SAN JUAN DE SABINAS, Mexico (AP)**—Rescue crews recovered the last of 14 bodies early Sunday from a coal mine wracked by a gas explosion last week, while Labor Secretary Javier Lozano called for an overhaul of mine safety in Mexico. Mexican officials said the blast Tuesday was caused by a buildup of gas. The national mine workers union said the mine’s work force was not unionized and accused the government of allowing mines to operate with unsafe conditions. The explosion was so powerful it also seriously injured a teenager who reportedly lost an arm as he was worked on the surface outside the mine. Lozano said earlier that the boy’s employment at the mine was an apparent violation of labor laws.

### Kenya police: Unexploded ordnance kills 4 children

**NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)**—Kenyan police say four children have been killed and one seriously injured after playing with unexploded ordnance they found near a military training ground. Deputy police spokesman Charles Owino says the children had taken their cows to graze on Sunday and had found an explosive object, possibly a grenade, near the village of Ole Maroroi. He says the children ranged in age from four to eight years old.

## A child reported killed as Syrian forces crack down

**CAIRO (AP)**—Gunfire and shelling rattled a city in central Syria on Sunday and killed a 12-year-old boy, as President Bashar Assad’s autocratic regime expanded its military crackdown on a seven-week uprising by sending tanks and reinforcements to key areas, activists said.

Activists said authorities also arrested a 10-year-old boy, apparently to punish his parents, and filed charges against a leading opposition figure who is suffering from cancer.

The exact circumstances of the boy’s death in the city of Homs were unclear. Like several other trouble spots, the government has answered protests there by sending in tanks and soldiers to seal it off and cutting phone service to leave it even more isolated.

The continued crackdown suggests that Assad’s regime is determined to end the uprising by force and intimidation, despite rapidly escalating international outrage and a death toll that has topped 580 civilians since the unrest began in mid-March, according to rights groups.

The government disputed the civilian toll and says about 100 soldiers have been killed.

On Sunday, the state-run news agency SANA said security forces were pursuing “armed terrorist groups” in the cities of Daraa, Homs and Baniyas, and that six Syrian soldiers, including three officers, were killed in clashes.

The report also said 10 Syr-

ians workers who were on their way back to Syria from Lebanon were killed in an ambush by armed terrorist groups on the Damascus-Homs highway.

The use of overwhelming force to crush an uprising worked for Syria’s close ally Iran when it quelled the 2009 Green Revolution triggered by a disputed presidential election. It has also worked for the Gulf nation of Bahrain.

The U.S. has imposed sanctions on three senior Syrian officials as well as Syria’s intelligence agency and Iran’s Revolutionary Guard over the crackdown. The European Union is expected to impose sanctions on Syrian officials soon, and the U.N. said Saturday it is sending a team into Syria to investigate the situation.

SANA said hundreds of Syrians held a demonstration Sunday in front of the U.S. Embassy in Damascus to protest “U.S. intervention in the country’s internal affairs.”

The military and security forces carried out arrest sweeps and posted snipers on rooftops in flashpoints across the country Sunday, including Homs, the coastal city of Baniyas and the southern city of Daraa, where the uprising began, activists said.

Hundreds were arrested in Baniyas, including a 10-year-old boy in what appeared to be a move designed to punish the child’s parents, said Rami Abdul-Rahman, director of the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

## Church burning deepens tumult of Egypt transition



Egyptian Copts demonstrate against the overnight sectarian violence, in downtown Cairo, Egypt Sunday, May 8, 2011

AP

**CAIRO (AP)**—Relations between Egypt’s Muslims and Christians degenerated to a new low Sunday after riots overnight left 12 people dead and a church burned, adding to the disorder of the country’s post-revolution transition to democracy.

The attack on the church was the latest sign of assertiveness by an extreme, ultra-conservative movement of Muslims known as Salafis, whose increasing hostility toward Egypt’s Coptic Christians over the past few months has met with little interference from the country’s military rulers.

Salafis have been blamed for other recent attacks on Christians and others they don’t approve of. In one attack, a Christian man had an ear cut off for renting an apartment to a Muslim woman suspected of involvement in prostitution.

The latest violence, which erupted in fresh clashes Sunday between Muslims and Christians who pelted each other with stones in another part of Cairo, also pointed to what many see as reluctance of the armed forces council to act. The council took temporary control of the country after President

Hosni Mubarak was deposed on Feb. 11.

After the overnight clashes in the slum of Imbaba, residents turned their anger toward the military. Some said they and the police did almost nothing to intervene in the five-hour frenzy of violence.

Analysts warned of signs of Coptic violence, especially with reports that some Christians have opened fire at Muslims.

“The Coptic volcano is exploding,” Coptic expert Youssef Sedhom said. “How would Copts respond if they find their back to the wall facing guns? They would have no option but self defense,” adding, “don’t blame Copts for what they do.”

Six Muslims were among the dead, according to Egypt’s state-run news agency.

The bloodshed began Saturday around sundown when word spread around the neighborhood that a Christian woman who married a Muslim had been abducted and was being kept in the Virgin Mary Church against her will.

Islamic extremists declared the crowded district a state within a state in 1990s, calling it “the Islamic Republic of Imbaba,” one of the

country’s hottest spots of Islamic militancy.

The report of the kidnapping, which was never confirmed by local religious figures, sent a large mob of Muslims toward the church. Christians created a human barricade around the building and clashes erupted. Gunfire sounded across the neighborhood, and witnesses said people on rooftops were firing into the crowd.

The two sides accused each other of firing first.

Crowds of hundreds of Muslims from the neighborhood lobbed firebombs at homes, shops and the church. Residents say Christians were hiding inside. Muslims chanted: “With our blood and soul, we defend you, Islam.”

Rimon Girgis, a 24-year-old with a tattoo of a Coptic saint on his arm, was among the Christians who formed a human shield around the church.

“They were around 40 bearded men chanting slogans like ‘There is no God but Allah.’ After rallying Muslim residents, they opened fire,” he said. “We Copts had to respond, so we hurled stones and pieces of broken marble.”

## Thousands march against violence in Mexico City

**MEXICO CITY (AP)**—An anti-violence march that began in a central state with a few hundred people and gathered thousands over a four-day trek reached Mexico’s capital Sunday, led by a poet whose son was killed by suspected drug traffickers.

People poured into the main Zocalo square in Mexico City, wearing white T-shirts saying “enough bloodshed” and carrying photos of poet Javier Sicilia’s slain son.

A few hundred people set off from Cuernavaca in the central state of Morelos on Thursday, marching silently along the 50-mile (80-kilometer) route. Turn-out estimates varied widely, but the crowd took up less than half of the main square, which is believed to hold about 100,000 people. It was packed with more than 100,000 in 2008 during another

march for peace and justice.

Since then crime attributed to drug trafficking and organized crime has only gotten worse in what one of Sunday’s marchers called “la guerra calderonista”—President Felipe Calderon’s war.

In a speech that drew deafening cheers, Sicilia demanded the resignation of Public Safety Secretary Genaro Garcia Luna, lashing out at the government for failing to curb Mexico’s relentless drug violence despite the deployment of thousands of soldiers and federal police to cartel strongholds across the country.

“If we have walked and arrived here in silence it’s because our pain is so great and so profound, and the horror that causes it so immense, that there are no words to describe it,” Si-

cilia said. “We still believe that it is possible to the country to be reborn and rise from ruin and show the agents of death that the sons and daughters of this country are standing up.”

Gruesome violence has surged in the region southwest of Mexico City since drug kingpin Arturo Beltran Leyva died in a December 2009 shootout with marines in Cuernavaca, leading to the splintering of his cartel. Rivals have routinely hung mutilated bodies from bridges along highways connecting Mexico City, Cuernavaca and the Pacific resort city of Acapulco.

Similar turf fighting has claimed more than 34,600 lives nationwide since Calderon deployed federal forces in 2006 to battle cartels.

An unprecedented num-

ber of drug bosses have been captured or killed, leading to the splintering of their cartels and fighting that has reached horrific levels, including the discovery last month of secret graves with hundreds of bodies in the northern states of Tamaulipas and Durango.

“Where were the political parties, the mayors, the governors, the federal authorities, the army, the navy, the church, the lawmakers, the businessmen—where were we all—when the highways of Tamaulipas turned into death traps for defenseless men and women?” Sicilia said in his speech.

The vast majority of drug-related homicides remain unsolved, provoking widespread anger over the inefficiency of Mexico’s overwhelmed and corrupt police.



# Focus

**WASHINGTON**—An al-Qaida statement posted on websites threatened quick retaliation against the United States as the group acknowledged the killing of its founder and leader, Osama bin Laden.

## Al-Qaida threatens retaliation against US for killing bin Laden

By **TOM BRUNE**  
Newsday

The Afghan Taliban also sent a statement to reporters that said bin Laden's death "will give a new impetus to the current jihad against the invaders," referring to the United States and its allies.

"We will remain, God willing, a curse chasing the Americans and their agents, following them outside and inside their countries," the al-Qaida statement said. "Soon, God willing, their happiness will turn to sadness, and their blood will be mingled with their tears."

The U.S. government would not confirm the al-Qaida statement's authenticity, but experts on the region and terrorism said al-Qaida faces pressure to attack quickly to reinforce its legitimacy as it sorts out who will take bin Laden's place.

Noting the al-Qaida statement acknowledges "the obvious" bin Laden death, White House spokesman Jay Carney said, "We're quite aware of the potential for activity and are highly vigilant on that matter for that reason."

The new threats came on a day when President Barack Obama personally thanked the raid's commandos and addressed troops in Kentucky and officials fretted over notes showing bin Laden weighed railway attacks.

Meanwhile, intelligence officials continued to analyze the cache of videotapes, computers and documents seized in the raid. A U.S. official said material retrieved from bin Laden's compound shows he was in touch with senior al-Qaida figures and was able to plot future attacks on U.S. targets from his suburban Pakistani hideout, The Associated Press reported. The official said the trove of documents and computer material also includes

new video of bin Laden, both unreleased propaganda tapes and more candid shots like home videos.

A U.S. drone strike aimed to kill but missed American-born radical cleric and al-Qaida propagandist Anwar al-Awlaki in Yemen, The Wall Street Journal reported.

And CNN reported that Pakistani authorities arrested dozens of people with ties to bin Laden's house in Abbottabad.

In what appeared to be al-Qaida's first response since bin Laden's death, an 11-paragraph statement dated May 3 and attributed to the terrorist network appeared Friday on websites that have earlier carried confirmed jihadist messages.

The message wasn't posted on the usual website for al-Qaida communications, said Frank Cilluffo of the Homeland Security Policy Institute at George Washington University. "The question is who really speaks for al-Qaida," he said.

Al-Qaida is scrambling to determine who will lead it now, especially as U.S. forces step up the hunt for known leaders, Cilluffo said. Al-Awlaki and bin Laden's No. 1, Ayman al-Zawahri have been mentioned as possible replacements.

"This new leadership will have to prove their bona fides and demonstrate that they're still viable, and they will attempt to do that in the boldest and most violent way possible," said Rep. Gary Ackerman, D-N.Y., an expert on South Asia.

Meanwhile, Rep. Steve Israel, D-N.Y., on a congressional trip to Qatar, Rep. Tim Bishop, D-N.Y., and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., called for vigilance and more federal funding for transit and other security in New York.

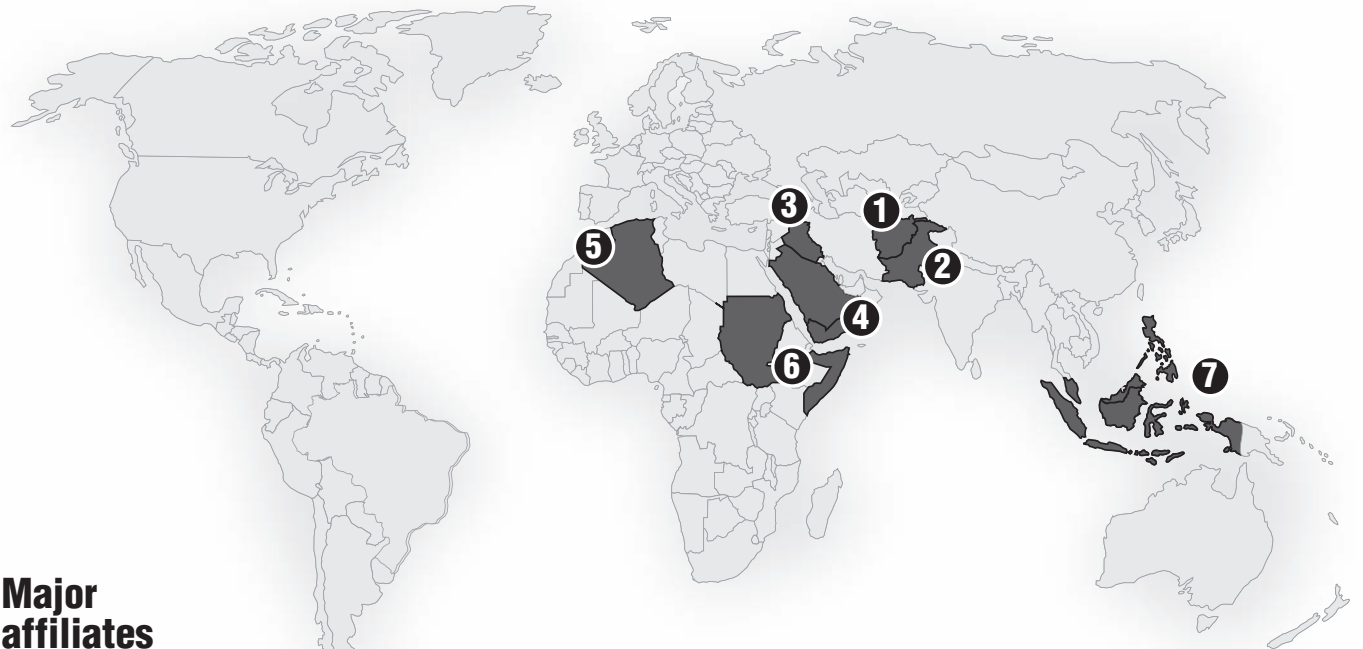
## Is al-Qaida still relevant?

*Today's al-Qaida is both a decentralized global network and a philosophical movement whose followers subscribe to its fundamentalist, anti-Western goals. But years of pressure by the international security community and the recent rebellions in the Mideast, largely by people who do not share al-Qaida's attitudes, have dulled its luster.*

### The al-Qaida 'brand'

Operates as a franchise with cells or loosely affiliated associates in 70 to 100 countries; provides financial and logistical support, as well as training to some; lends brand name to others; number of members unknown

### ■ Countries with affiliates of the core al-Qaida



### Major affiliates

#### 1 Al-Qaida in Afghanistan

Osama bin Laden began the group here to resist Soviet occupation of the country (1979-89); has support of the Taliban; since 2001, U.S. and NATO forces have driven most operatives from the country; some may have returned to remote areas

#### 2 Al-Qaida in Pakistan

Al-Qaida and Taliban forces that fled Afghanistan are active here, have links with other Islamist militants and Pakistani terrorists; al-Qaida keeps training camps and senior operatives are thought to work from here; bin Laden was killed by U.S. forces while hiding in Abbottabad

#### 3 Al-Qaida in Iraq

Threatened Iraq's security in the years of sectarian violence that followed the 2003 U.S. invasion; marginalized following the murder of leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi in 2006

#### 4 Al-Qaida in Arab Peninsula

In 2009, Saudi and Yemeni militants joined forces in Yemen after Saudi security forces broke up operations in Saudi Arabia; operates within the Arabian Peninsula and globally

#### 5 Al-Qaida in Islamic Maghreb

Operates mainly in Algeria's Saharan provinces, sparsely populated areas of Mauritania, Mali, Niger; draws recruits from Tunisia, Morocco; claimed responsibility for 2004 Madrid bombings

#### 6 Al-Qaida in East Africa

Sudan has long been a safe haven for terrorists; used as a base by bin Laden in the early '90s; Somali terrorist groups, including Al Shabaab, align with al-Qaida leaders in the region

#### 7 Al-Qaida in Southeast Asia

Operates in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines; militant Islamists are as much a threat to moderate Muslims as to Western targets

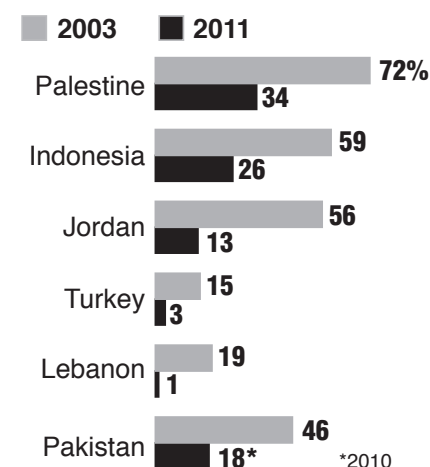
### Goals

- Drive Western influence out of Muslim nations, topple pro-Western leaders in Mideast
- Destroy Israel
- Unite Muslims in a fundamentalist nation that adheres to the rule of the first Caliphs (rulers that succeeded Mohammed)

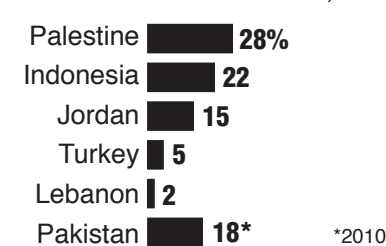
### Dwindling popularity

#### In selected Muslim countries

Percent of respondents who had confidence in bin Laden



Percent of respondents who had a favorable view of al-Qaida, 2011



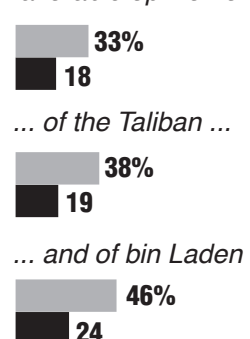
Source: Pew Global Attitudes survey of approximately 1,000-2,250 Muslims in various countries, March 21-April 12, 2011; margin of error: +/-2 to 3 percentage points

Source: U.S. Congressional Research Service, globalsecurity.org  
Graphic: Pat Carr

#### In Pakistan

■ 2007 ■ 2008

Percent of Pakistanis who had a favorable opinion of al-Qaida ...



Source: Terror Free Tomorrow and Pakistani Institute for Public Opinion poll of 1,157 Pakistanis, Jan. 19-29, 2008; margin of error: +/-3 percentage points



## Overdrive

By TOM INCANTALUPO  
NEWSDAY

The old adage "You get what you pay for," repeats in one's ear every moment behind the wheel of the Mazda2. This little car doesn't cost a lot—and it's worth every penny. There's nothing here to surprise or delight. No shock, no awe—although maybe an "awwwww" at how cute it is.

But that fuel economy is surely attractive with gas around \$4 a gallon. And the four-door hatchback shape is practical. Consider a Mazda2 if you're looking for a commuter or station car and there's a Mazda dealer you'd like to patronize.

Prices for a 2 start just above \$14,000 before freight. Compare to a Honda Fit, Toyota Yaris, Hyundai Accent or the 2's structural relative, the Ford Fiesta. The Environmental Protection Agency says you can expect 29 miles per gallon in the city, 36 on the highway with the manual transmission and 27/33 with automatic, as I sampled the 2. I averaged just under 29 mpg.

Complaints: the driver's seat's bottom cushion is not ad-

## Mazda2, a good choice for the money

## NUTS &amp; BOLTS

## 2011 Mazda2 Touring:

As tested:

- Engine: 1.5-liter, four-cylinder, 100 hp
- Fuel: Regular
- Transmission: Four-speed automatic, front-wheel drive
- Safety: Six air bags; front

disc, rear drum brakes with antilock, stability control and brake assist; tire pressure monitoring; fog lamps; brake override preventing unintended acceleration

- Place of assembly: Hiroshima, Japan
- Cargo Room: 13.3 cubic

feet maximum and 27.8 cubic feet minimum.

■ EPA fuel economy estimates: 27 mpg city, 33 highway

■ Price as driven: \$17,185 with freight

■ Bottom line: Competitive but not extraordinary



The 2011 Mazda 2, an inexpensive new hatchback that's taking advantage of Ford's heavily marketed new Fiesta.

justable and was tilted too far forward; lots of engine noise enters the cabin; the automatic transmission has only four forward speeds; the windshield wipers' intermittency can't be adjusted; the steering wheel tilts but does not telescope; the central door-locking switch is unlabeled.

On the upside, controls are simple and well located, what gauges there are can be clearly

read day or night. The 2's engine is peppy in local driving, though it runs out of breath when one tries to pass at expressway speeds. The ride is reasonably comfortable for so light a car. Handling is competent.

Consumer Reports doesn't have a reliability rating yet for the 2. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety calls the 2 "good" in frontal crash protection and roof strength in rollovers and deems the car "acceptable" in side and rear impacts.

## Mice can cause huge mess in the air filter

By PAUL BRAND  
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

**QUESTION:** This spring I went to replace my air filter, only to discover that mice had chewed out the entire section leading into the throttle body. Did it affect my engine by driving it over the entire winter this way? I checked the filter last summer and it was fine, but in late fall I was still going up to the cabin, which is on a very dusty gravel road. I installed a wire mesh screen on the front side of the new air filter. Is this OK?

**ANSWER:** Rodents and other small critters are the bane of parked automobiles. They nest in air ducts, eat electrical wire insulation and leave "debris" everywhere. I "long-term park" vehicles with dryer sheets strewn about the interior, engine compartment and trunk, and I make sure the windows are open only a fraction of an inch for ventilation. I've even plugged tailpipes and air intakes with rags to prevent invasion.

In your case, a huge hole in the air induction system between the mass airflow sensor and throttle body would create a huge drivability issue and light up the "check engine" light—so I have to assume the opening was between the air filter and mass airflow sensor. In that case, a significant percentage of incoming air would be correctly metered, but unfiltered. This wouldn't affect drivability much, but would allow airborne dirt and debris into the induction system and engine.

To check for this, pull off the hose on the front of the throttle body and inspect for a film of dirt on the throttle plate or bore. Since any air drawn from the front of the car was still being filtered, only engine compartment air was drawn through the hole.

If there is evidence of dirt, the only thing you can do is clean and flush the throttle body, wiping away as much as possible. Then I'd spray aerosol Sea-Foam Deep Creep through a vacuum port into the induction system with the engine running to clean any dirt/debris down-

stream from the throttle body.

Adding the wire screen, as long as it's not too restrictive to airflow, upstream of the air filter will help prevent large-caliber dirt/debris from reaching the air filter, but with the hole being between the MAF sensor and throttle body, the critters have chewed through the air duct from the outside, not the inside.

■ ■ ■  
**Q:** I purchased a 1988 Cavalier knowing that the air conditioner was not working. The refrigerant leaks out overnight, but three garages have failed to find the leak. What should I do?

**A:** Have a shop charge the system with nitrogen and perhaps add a dye to find the leak. At that rate of loss, the leak should be easy to spot. Common areas of leaks are the compressor seals and the condenser.

■ ■ ■  
**Q:** I recently purchased a 2007 Chrysler minivan. The van does not have antilock brakes or stability control. Can these features be added to a vehicle that doesn't have them?

**A:** No. Adding these would be virtually impossible and prohibitively expensive because of the sophistication, complexity and integration of electronically controlled systems on modern vehicles. For example, your vehicle has a simple brake master cylinder. ABS/traction-control-equipped vehicles feature an electronic brake control module, an electro/hydraulic brake control module and individual wheel speed sensors, all integrated with the hydraulic brake system and the powertrain control module.

*Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488 or via email at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. It isn't always possible to send a personal reply.*

## When A/C fails, refrigerant may be low

By BRAD BERGHOLDT  
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**QUESTION:** My air conditioner hasn't worked for quite a while and I'm considering having it fixed. The vents blow warm air but it never gets cold. My question is how much it might cost. I don't mind paying maybe \$150 but am concerned I might pay that much just to find out it's going to be \$600, which I can't swing. The car is a 1999 Buick. Any ideas about what it might need?—Jessie G.

**ANSWER:** Let's start with a quick look at A/C theory, then we can look at the most likely ways it can fail to work. Automotive air-conditioning systems use an engine-driven compressor to circulate refrigerant and a small quantity of lubricant through a large loop of hoses and pipes, four additional components, and back to the compressor. The loop includes the

condenser, a radiator-like device, which is mounted behind the vehicle's grille. Next is a small tank, called either a receiver/dryer or accumulator, depending on system type; a flow control device; and the evaporator, which is a second radiator-like device located behind the instrument panel. The final path is back to the compressor.

As the refrigerant is compressed and passes through the various devices, it changes state from vapor to liquid and back to vapor, along with changes in pressure. This process allows heat to be drawn into the evaporator from the passenger compartment and released by the condenser outside the vehicle.

The most common air conditioning faults are loss of refrigerant due to leakage, electrical faults in switches and controls, or a failed or leaking compressor. Leakage can occur from hose and pipe connections, the

compressor shaft seal or more rarely, cracks, splits or corrosion of various system parts. Leakage often leaves a telltale sign: a dirty, sticky buildup of escaped lubricant at the point of leakage. Electrical problems may result in denial of compressor operation, improper operation of the condenser cooling fan, or misdirection of heating/cooling operations within the instrument panel. A failed compressor is the worst-case scenario because of the high cost of parts and labor.

Odds are high you're low on refrigerant because of leakage, whether long-term or rapid. The servicing technician will evaluate system pressures, look for telltale leakage, recharge as necessary to test for a leak, then recommend your repair options. In a best-case scenario, no significant leaks would be found, an evacuation and refrigerant recharge are performed, and you're good to go for about the price you hoped for. More likely

is a hose or pipe connection or ring requires replacement, in addition to the evacuation and charge, pushing the bill a bit higher. Worse yet would be a leaking hose assembly or faulty flow control device.

Deal-breaker problems may be a leaking condenser or evaporator or a failed compressor. If the system has lost all refrigerant and moisture-laden air has entered, replacement of the receiver/dryer or accumulator is also recommended, as these components contain desiccant, a moisture-absorbing agent, which may be saturated. Moisture, the system's No. 1 enemy, reacts with refrigerant to cause harmful corrosion.

*Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at under-the-hood@earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.*

## Pricy oil can last at least 5,000 miles

By STEVEN COLE SMITH  
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

**QUESTION:** I took my 2008 Cadillac CTS in for an oil change the other day, and the service manager told me my car had a recall regarding the onboard computer's suggested oil life. GM decided that it should be reset to recommend that the oil would be changed more often than originally. Mobil 1 is the oil used, and they want

to change it every five months or 5,000 miles. What should be the time frame between changes for synthetic oil?—Ron Summerlin, Plantation, Fla.

**ANSWER:** Not to sound like an advertisement for Mobil 1 synthetic oil, but ever since Chevrolet started using it as the standard oil in Corvettes—which have always had issues with engine cooling—I figured if it's good enough for them, it's good enough for me. There are

other excellent synthetic oils on the market, too, like Amsoil.

That said, changing Mobil 1 based solely on it being in the car for five months seems absurd. The 5,000-mile interval is what I use for my personal vehicles (and that includes a new filter), but many mechanics will tell you that every 7,500 miles is fine for synthetics. But in more than a million miles of driving, and quite a few miles of racing, I've never had an oil-related breakdown. Besides lubrication,

one of oil's duties is to collect dirt and carbon from inside the engine, and the filter can't collect it all. Too much dirt, and the lubrication ability suffers. Fairly frequent changes helps keep the oil comparatively clean.

If you go a year before you drive 5,000 miles, change the oil then. But every five months is too often for me, especially given the very high price of Mobil 1 and other true synthetics.

*Steven Cole Smith is the automotive editor at the Orlando Sentinel in Florida. Send questions to scsmith@orlandosentinel.com.*



# Life & Style

## Gender stereotypes easing more for girls than boys

**NEW YORK (AP)**—If a girl wants to try her hand at baseball or ice hockey, she's likely to be praised as plucky. But if a boy likes the color pink?

Well, that's a toenail of a different color.

Last month, J. Crew unleashed a furor when a promotion depicted its creative director, Jenna Lyons, painting her 5-year-old son Beckett's toenails with pink nail polish. "Lucky for me, I ended up with a boy whose favorite color is pink," the caption read.

Dr. Keith Ablow, a psychiatrist and regular guest on Fox News, didn't approve.

"It may be fun and games now, Jenna, but at least put some money aside for psychotherapy for the kid," he wrote on Foxnews.com. "This is a dramatic example of the way that our culture is being encouraged to abandon all trappings of gender identity."

In fact, Lyons and her son had stepped on a cultural land mine. Gender stereotypes for America's children are less rigid than in the past, but they remain a pervasive part of popular culture and a benchmark for parents. Moreover, the changes in recent decades have been more dramatic for girls than boys.

So Ablow quickly found support. One Million Moms, an offshoot of the conservative American Family Association, urged followers to write protest letters to J. Crew and asserted that "nontraditional activities ... can be destructive and damaging to a child's identity and self-esteem."

Just as quickly, there was a backlash from people who liked Beckett's pink toenails. Hundreds of people accepted a Facebook invitation to join "Pink Toenail Polish Day" on Monday, and Anne Fausto-Sterling, a professor of biology and gender studies at Brown University, urged Lyons' critics to "take a deep breath" and not worry if kids don't always fit a "cardboard cutout stereotype of gender roles."

"Kids explore, sample, test and learn," she wrote in a Psychology Today blog. "They should have the

freedom to do this and the strength to grow into interesting human beings."

Across the spectrum of politics and parenting philosophies, it's a topic that captivates people.

"For girls nowadays, it's OK to play with boys' toys, dress like boys, talk like them—it's often encouraged," said Isabelle Cherney, a Creighton University psychologist. "Boys have to walk a much finer line, and their fathers tend to be more stereotyped, telling them not to deviate from what's typically seen as masculine."

For little girls and their parents, there's ample room to maneuver. Ultra-feminine toys and activities abound, along with an ever-growing range of "tomboy" sports options and other pursuits that in the past were mostly the domain of boys.

"The norms of femininity have expanded much more than the norms for masculinity—a lot more androgyny is allowed for girls," said Judith Stacey, a professor of social and cultural analysis at New York University.

"With boys, it's not seen as OK to wear skirts, play with princesses' wands," she said.

"There's still a lot of anxiety about being sufficiently masculine."

The trends are reflected in career aspirations. Women now make up close to half the enrollment in U.S. law and medical schools, up from less than 25 percent a few decades ago, yet men continue to shun nursing as a career, comprising only about 8 percent of registered nurses.

William Pollack, a professor in the Psychiatry Department at Harvard Medical School, has written extensively about the challenges facing American boys and hopes the stereotypes affecting them are loosening. "Keeping boys in the gender straight jacket was

### SATURDAY

with jenna

See how she and son Beckett go off duty in style.



This image made from the J. Crew website shows a page with a photograph of Jenna Lyons, creative director for the company, with her son Beckett, 5, wearing pink nail polish on his toes. In March 2011, J. Crew unleashed a furor with this promotion.

not good for them," he said.

"If a boy wants to dress up now and then in his mother's clothes, what he's doing is identifying with one of the most loved people in his life—he's not dis-identifying with being a boy."

Pollack said many fathers are torn over gender-role issues, supporting the concept of less rigid stereotypes yet worried that their sons might be ostracized if they partake in activities viewed by their peers as unmasculine: "We still socialize boys to follow their more aggressive side rather than their more thoughtful and caring side. We're basically telling boys that the worst thing they can be is a girl."

Feminists with sons find themselves

swimming against the tide. Imani Perry, a professor at Princeton's Center for African American Studies, says she teaches her sons, 4 and 7, to believe in gender equality, but finds it challenging that many of their friends' parents tend to reinforce stereotypes.

"My sons have been so disappointed by gender-specific birthday parties ... and confused by the princess culture their girl friends are so often caught up in," Perry wrote in an e-mail.

Amy Richards, mother of 5- and 7-year-old sons in New York City, is a feminist activist and author of "Opting In: Having a Child Without Losing Yourself." A former college soccer player, Richards is pleased that her

sons are good athletes, but also is wary of lapsing into gender stereotypes. For example, she made a point of taking them to see the New York Liberty, a women's pro basketball team.

"I try not to overemphasize masculinity and devalue femininity," she said. "I don't want to buy only 'boy toys' for them ... I've never purchased an action hero figure."

In Chicago, social worker Keisha Farmer-Smith counsels adolescent girls at work. At home, she's a single mom raising sons Kaleb, 7, and Khalil, 12—and encouraging them to think creatively about gender roles.

She recalled how Khalil, at 5 or 6, had a cuddly doll named Mikey that rarely left his possession.

"My ex-husband was so upset that I would allow him to have this doll," Farmer-Smith said. "It came down to me supporting my son. He said, 'I want to be a good parent. I love Mikey. I want him to see me play ball.'"

Glenn Stanton, director for family formation studies at the Christian ministry Focus on the Family, believes male/female differences should be emphasized to children, rather than blurred, on the premise that each gender has essential strengths.

However, Stanton, who has a son and four daughters, says he welcomes a move away from polarized gender roles—what he calls the "pretty in pinks" and "macho Joes."

"We're moving away from the crazy stereotypes," he said. "But we're not saying that gender doesn't matter."

For Keith Ablow, blurring of gender roles could have momentous long-term consequences.

"It will be a very big deal if it turns out that neither gender is very comfortable anymore nurturing children above all else," he wrote, "and neither gender is motivated to protect the nation by marching into combat against other men and risking their lives."

"Maybe we'll all have shiny, colored lips, though, and pierced ears and perfect eyebrows."

## Talking points for engaged, interfaith couples

By **MELISSA KOSSLER DUTTON**  
FOR THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Catherine Coppari and Max Lipkin's wedding will include elements of both their faiths.

In keeping with Coppari's Roman Catholic background, the minister will bless the rings. Lipkin will break a glass at the end of the ceremony, as is customary at Jewish weddings.

Coppari, 26, and Lipkin, 27, hope their married life also will be a blending of both religions. It is a topic the Brooklyn, New York, couple have spent hours discussing.

"It's always better to have the conversation" before the wedding, said Lipkin. "If we didn't have these conversations, down the road, it could cause problems."

Increasingly Americans are marrying outside their faiths. Twenty-five percent of U.S. households were mixed-faith in 2006, up from 15 percent in 1988, according to the General Social Survey released last year by the University of Chicago's National Opinion Research Center. In 2008, the Pew Research Center released a survey saying 27 percent of Americans who were mar-

ried or living with a partner were in religiously mixed relationships.

Interfaith couples need to talk seriously before getting married about how they will practice their faiths, what religion they will teach their children and which holidays they will celebrate, according to religious advisers who counsel them.

"You have to be fearless, and really talk about your religion and your view of God," said the Rev. Susanna Stefanachi Macomb, an interfaith minister and counselor in New York City.

Couples should develop a plan for pursuing their religions, said Rabbi Stuart E. Davis of Overland Park, Kansas. They must answer the question: "How will we household together?", he said. Both should think hard about what is important to them in their own religions.

Other questions that someone entering into an interfaith marriage should ponder and discuss:

- Are you comfortable following your religion on your own, or do you want your partner to attend services with you?

- Are you OK with religious symbols in your home?

- What will you do when invited to religious ceremonies for friends and family? Are you comfortable attending a Catholic Mass or a bris or other religious rite?

Once both partners have shared their thoughts, they may have to work to find middle ground, said Ed Case, CEO of InterfaithFamily.com, which aims to help couples of mixed religious backgrounds exploring Jewish life.

The next question, then, is what they will do when they have children.

Too often couples focus on getting through the wedding rather than looking to the future, said Macomb, the New York minister. "They say, 'We'll talk about the children afterward. No, no, no!'" she said.

Questions about whether a child will have a baptism, confirmation, bar or bat mitzvah, and attend religious school must be talked about ahead of time, the experts said.

"Who wins this argument—because it will be an argument," needs to be resolved, added Steve McSwain, an interfaith activist and former minister in Louisville, Kentucky. "You've got to iron these things out."

Often, those marrying into other faiths are willing to participate in religious celebrations that are important to their partners, Case added.

But sometimes, they find insurmountable differences in faith and observance, and break up.

"Breaking up is not a bad resolution if in this guided process" you've discovered you cannot work through such issues, Case said.

Interfaith marriage is not for everyone, McSwain agreed.

"It takes a very mature couple that can be freely open and have a willingness to believe and respect that no religion is more right than any other," he said.

Also important is talking honestly and respectfully with parents and other family members about potentially difficult religious issues. Macomb offers these tips:

1. Introduce your partner to your family when you recognize that the relationship is serious.

2. Approach your parents as a team. Use "we" rather than "I" when discussing wedding or life plans.

3. Always back up your partner.

4. Listen respectfully to your parents' concerns.

5. Make it clear what your plans are regarding holidays, children and religious pursuits.



# 'Thor' hammers competition with \$66M opening

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Thor" kicked off the summer movie season by smashing the competition at the box office with a \$66 million opening weekend.

The 3-D action picture from Paramount, based on the Marvel comic, was by far the No. 1 movie, according to Sunday studio estimates.

Australian actor Chris Hemsworth stars as the arrogant god of thunder who's sent down to Earth as punishment. It was directed by Kenneth Branagh, best known for making films based on Shakespeare plays such as an epic "Hamlet," and featured a supporting cast that included Anthony Hopkins, Natalie Portman and Stellan Skarsgard.

In second place was a hold-over from last week, the car-racing sequel "Fast Five" from Universal Pictures. It made \$32.5 million for a total of nearly \$140 million in just 10 days.



In this film publicity image released by Paramount Pictures and Marvel Entertainment, Chris Hemsworth, left, and Anthony Hopkins are shown in a scene from, "Thor."

Although the opening for "Thor" wasn't as enormous as those of other superhero movies, it still exceeded studio expectations, which were around \$55 million. It was the third-highest

opening for a Marvel franchise launch, behind "Spider-Man," which made \$115 million in 2002, and "Iron Man," which made \$98.6 million in 2008.

Don Harris, Paramount's executive vice president for distribution, thought the film held appeal for both men and women; 37 percent of the audience was female.

"Chris Hemsworth looks like he's going to be a movie star," Harris said. "Kenneth Branagh made a very smart movie, and the idea that the man who's most closely identified with Shakespeare is making a Marvel superhero movie, I always thought was pretty interesting. Audiences connected with the Natalie Portman relationship, between her character and Thor. The movie looks spectacular on the screen. It was fun, and it's a

big, epic movie."

Hollywood.com box office analyst Paul Dergarabedian thought "Thor" had a pretty respectable opening given that it's a lesser-known comic book title. "Expectations always get wildly overblown with superhero movies—a superhero movie has the biggest opening weekend of all time: 'The Dark Knight,'" Dergarabedian said of the hit in the Batman franchise. "Expectations are always extremely high, especially on the first weekend in May, which is traditionally a huge weekend."

"It may have a solid hold," he added. "Sometimes it's not just about opening weekend. Sometimes it's about playability."

theaters.

"Jumping the Broom" from TriStar Pictures came in third with \$13.7 million, higher than studio expectations, which were around \$10 million. Angela Bassett and Loretta Devine star as the mothers of two families that clash as they're about to be united in their children's marriage.

In fourth place was the Warner Bros. romantic drama "Something Borrowed," based on the Emily Giffin best-seller, which made about \$13.2 million. Ginnifer Goodwin stars as a lawyer who realizes she's in love with the fiancé of her best friend, played by Kate Hudson.

In limited release, Summit Entertainment's "The Beaver," star-

1. **"Thor,"** \$66 million.
2. **"Fast Five,"** \$32.5 million.
3. **"Jumping the Broom,"** \$13.7 million.
4. **"Something Borrowed,"** \$13.2 million.
5. **"Rio,"** \$8.2 million.
6. **"Water for Elephants,"** \$5.6 million.
7. **"Tyler Perry's Madea's Big Happy Family,"** \$3.9 million.
8. **"Prom,"** \$2.4 million.
9. **"Soul Surfer,"** \$2.1 million.
10. **"Hoodwinked Too! Hood vs. Evil,"** \$1.9 million.

The next big competition for "Thor" comes in two weeks, on May 20, with the opening of "Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides," the fourth film in the blockbuster Disney franchise. On Memorial Day weekend come the sequels "The Hangover Part II" from Warner Bros. and "Kung Fu Panda 2" from Paramount.

Opening in a close third and fourth place were two wedding-themed movies, both of which served as counter-programming to the effects-laden spectacles in

ring Mel Gibson as a depressed man who communicates through a beaver hand puppet, made \$104,000 at 22 theaters. Directed by and co-starring Jodie Foster, the dramedy marks Gibson's first major role since a series of off-screen rants and scandals tarnished his reputation. It expands nationwide May 20.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

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For Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
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**NOW SHOWING**



**Thor**  
 Friday & Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:45  
 Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05  
 Mon thru Thurs 4:05 7:05  
**Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman**  
 Action • Rated PG 13

### Synopsis

As the son of Odin (Anthony Hopkins), the king of the Norse gods, Thor (Chris Hemsworth) is soon to inherit the throne of Asgard from his aging father. However, on the day that he is to be crowned, Thor reacts with brutality when the gods' enemies, the Frost Giants, enter the palace in violation of their treaty. As punishment, Odin banishes Thor to Earth. While Loki (Tom Hiddleston), Thor's brother, plots mischief in Asgard, Thor, now stripped of his powers, faces his greatest threat yet.



**Something Borrowed**  
 Friday & Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:40  
 Sunday 1:25 4:25 7:25  
 Mon thru Thurs 4:25 7:25  
**Kate Hudson, Ginnifer Goodwin**  
 Comedy drama • Rated PG 13

### Synopsis

Screenwriter Jennie Snyder Urman adapts author Emily Giffin's freshman novel to the screen with this romantic drama directed by Luke Greenfield. Darcy (Kate Hudson) is best friends with Rachel (Ginnifer Goodwin), a successful New York City attorney. When Rachel forms a romantic connection with Darcy's fiancé, the fragile threads that connect the trio are tested. — Jason Buchanan, Rovi



**Fast Five**  
 Friday & Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 10:00  
 Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:15  
 Mon thru Thurs 4:15 7:15  
**Vin Diesel, Paul Walker**  
 Action • Rated PG 13

### Synopsis

Director Justin Lin (The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift, Fast & Furious) returns to the helm for this adrenaline-charged sequel reuniting series stars Vin Diesel and Paul Walker for their biggest thrill ride yet. With the police in hot pursuit and wanted fugitive Dom (Diesel) in tow, Brian (Walker) and Mia (Jordana Brewster) make their way to Rio, and realize they've run out of luck. In order to earn their freedom, they'll have to pull off their biggest job yet.



**Prom**  
 Friday & Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:30  
 Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00  
 Mon thru Thurs 4:00 7:00  
**Aimee Teegarden, Thomas McDonell**  
 Comedy drama • Rated PG



**Beastly**  
 Friday & Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 9:55  
 Sunday 1:30 4:30 7:30  
 Mon thru Thurs 4:30 7:30  
**Alex Pettyfer, Vanessa Hudgens**  
 Fantasy • Rated PG 13



**Madea's Big Happy Family**  
 Friday & Saturday 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:50  
 Sunday 1:10 4:10 7:10  
 Mon thru Thurs 4:10 7:10  
**Tyler Perry, Loretta Devine**  
 Comedy drama • Rated PG 13



**Rio**  
 Friday & Saturday 1:20 4:20 7:20 9:35  
 Sunday 1:20 4:20 7:20  
 Mon thru Thurs 4:20 7:20  
**Anne Hathaway, will.i.am**  
 Children's/family • Rated G

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## OBITUARIES

### Gunter Sachs, ex-husband of Bardot, kills self

GENEVA (AP)—German-born photographer Gunter Sachs, best known for his playboy lifestyle and brief marriage to French actress Brigitte Bardot, has committed suicide. He was 78. In a statement released Sunday by his family at his request, Sachs said he chose to end his life after concluding that he was suffering from an incurable degenerative disease affecting his memory and ability to communicate. "I have always stood up to big challenges," the statement said. It provided no details on the timing or circumstances of his death, but German weekly Focus reported that Sachs shot himself Saturday at his home in the exclusive Swiss Alpine resort of Gstaad. Sachs is survived by Bardot, to whom he was married from 1966-1969, his third wife Mirja Larsson and their sons Christian and Alexander, and son Rolf from his first marriage. A funeral will take place in the presence of his close family.

starred in "Wagon Train," "Cannon" and "The Rockford Files."

### Sada Thompson, 1970s TV mom, dies in Conn. at 81

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)—Sada Thompson, the durable matriarch of stage and screen who won a Tony Award for her portraits of three sisters and their mother in the 1971 comedy "Twigs" and an Emmy Award for playing the eternally understanding mother in the television series "Family," has died at age 81. Thompson died Wednesday of a lung disease at Danbury Hospital, agent David Shaul said Sunday from Los Angeles. Thompson won wide acclaim during an illustrious career that spanned more than 60 years, during which she gravitated toward quality work that allowed her to plumb her characters' complexities. Thompson met and married a fellow drama student, Donald Stewart, at the Carnegie Institute of Technology in 1949. Their daughter is a costume designer.

### 'Body Snatchers' star Dana Wynter dies at 79

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Dana Wynter, who ran from the Pod People in the 1956 science-fiction classic "Invasion of the Body Snatchers," has died in Southern California. She was 79. Her son, Mark Bautzer, told the Los Angeles Times the actress died Thursday in Ojai of congestive heart failure. Wynter, who starred in a number of television dramas in the 1960s, was best known for her role as Becky Driscoll in director Don Siegel's paranoid film about townspeople being replaced by emotionless duplicates grown from plant-like pods. Born in Germany, Wynter grew up in England and studied to be a doctor before turning to acting. She appeared with Robert Lansing in the ABC series "The Man Who Never Was," and

### 'Gypsy' playwright Arthur Laurents dies in NYC

NEW YORK (AP)—Arthur Laurents, the director, playwright and screenwriter who wrote such enduring stage musicals as "West Side Story" and "Gypsy," as well as the movie classics "Rope" and "The Way We Were," died Thursday. He was 93. Laurents died at his home in Manhattan from complications of pneumonia, said his agent, Jonathan Lomma. Laurents had an extensive career in radio and in Hollywood, but it was on Broadway where he had his biggest successes—particularly with two musicals many consider to be among the finest ever written. And Laurents provided the book—or story—for both of them "West Side Story," which opened on Broadway in 1957, transformed Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" into musical theater.



# Winners cross 'The Amazing Race' finish line

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—LaKisha Hoffman and Jennifer Hoffman rode past the Harlem Globetrotters to win "The Amazing Race."

The sisters, both coaches originally from Chicago, crossed the finish line first to win the CBS reality series's \$1 million grand prize. Despite never landing on the mat first on any leg of the around-the-world race's 18th edition, the sisters overcame Globetrotter teammates Nathaniel "Big Easy" Lofton and Herbert "Flight Time" Lang to win the final leg that aired Sunday.

"The only time it matters winning a leg is this last leg," LaKisha Hoffman said.

The athletic teams battled for the top spot after traveling from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to Miami, Fla. The Hoffmans said in a phone interview after Sunday's finale that the most influential part of their win was a Miami taxi driver named Louis, who helped them decipher clues with his smartphone and guided

them along the route to the finish line.

"Our cab driver was an angel sent from heaven," said Jennifer Hoffman, who added that she wanted to find him to tip him some of their \$1 million prize.

That wasn't the case for father-and-daughter duo Gary and Mallory Erwin, who lingered in third place after their driver got lost on the way to a dry dock boat challenge. The race's outcome was clear during the final task: setting up a trailer. The teams worked side by side so their trailer encampments mimicked a photo in a mobile home brochure.

"I'm gonna be livin' in one of these if I don't win this," Mallory Erwin teased.

In visibly windy conditions, the Hoffmans constructed their trailer first and charged past the Globetrotters on tricycles to the finish line at the other side of the Seven Mile Bridge. Lofton and Lang, who came in first during the previous two legs of the

competition, realized on the bridge that they wouldn't be able to catch the Hoffmans.

"We got beat out by a couple girls, but that's OK," Lang joked at the finish line.

The Hoffmans' win marks the second time in the race's history an all-female has taken the top spot.

LaKisha Hoffman, a social work graduate student, said Sunday that she would use part of her winnings to pay off her student loans, while Jennifer Hoffman said she would use her money to contribute to several charities. They called their win "the best Mother's Day present ever" for their single mother.

The 18th edition of "The Amazing Race" featured 11 teams of veteran contestants who had never won the show's grand prize. The race began at a wind farm in Palm Springs, California and included stops in Australia, Japan, China, India, Austria and Liechtenstein.

## Jennifer Nettles and her dream duet



**MCT**  
Jon Bon Jovi and Jennifer Nettles, of Sugarland, perform together during the 39th Annual Country Music Awards held at Madison Square Garden in New York, New York on November 15, 2005.

By **JON BREAM**  
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

**MINNEAPOLIS**—She's the lead singer of today's most celebrated country duo, Sugarland. But Jennifer Nettles is always singing with non-country stars on award shows—Bon Jovi, Adele and, most recently, Rihanna on last month's Academy of Country Music (ACM) Awards.

It seems the world can't get enough of Nettles' big, twangy voice and movie-star looks. We reached the 36-year-old country star by phone from her Atlanta home to talk about Rihanna, the freedom her fans give her and that inevitable solo career.

**Q. How did it end up that you were singing with Rihanna on one of her songs, "California King Bed," on the ACMs?**

**A.** We were trying to do something fun for the ACMs and we reached out to her and she said, "I have this great song. I would

love to do it with you. It has more of an acoustic base and I think song-wise you'd sound great on it." So I gave it a listen and I was like "Sure, we could kill that." That was a super-fun performance to do. How exciting to perform with Rihanna and to be able to show people—and hopefully bring some of her fans—that country music is young and fun and hip and "Hey, c'mon over, jump on in, the water's fine."

**Q. Fans noticed that for the ACMs your hair was suddenly long again. How long is your hair today?**

**A.** Today, my hair's been on a diet. That was my hair on steroids. It's so fun to be able to play with that. Those shows are all about glamour and about having fun in the performance of it. I don't like to wear make-up typically; that's for special occasions.

**Q. In concert, Sugarland does covers of all kinds of non-country songs—from Madonna and Britney Spears to R.E.M.**

**and Cee Lo Green. Why does your audience give you this freedom to expand your musical boundaries?**

**A.** Because it's authentic to who I am and to who we are. Really, what fans want is an authentic musical experience. I love singing all kinds of music and I have a bit of musical A-D-D. I don't like to get bored or stagnant as a writer or a singer. I like to play around with different textures and colors and parts of my instrument. I have a lot of different musical influences. As long as you're being yourself, the fans learn to respect it and trust it and by doing so, they allow it.

**Q. For last year's "Incredible Machine" album, Sugarland received mixed reviews for going for a different sound, ranging from reggae to arena rock.**

**A.** It was a reach. But it was authentic to who we are. One of the purposes of art is to provoke. I definitely don't make my decisions based on the fact that some people aren't going to like something. You have to have something that people don't like every now and then or else you're living too safely. We were conscious when writing this album of our live show and how we wanted to entertain.

**Q. Who do you want to duet with next?**

**A.** There are so many. My first thought would be Sting. I met him when I performed on the Kennedy Center Honors when I honored Bruce Springsteen. And he was there, as well, for Springsteen.

**Q. We have to ask every time: When will you do a solo project?**

**A.** If it happens, it happens. Kristian (Bush, her Sugarland partner) and I are definitely supportive of each other in our individual explorations and forays. Do I have any specific plans? No. It's a valid question, and I like it because I'm sure there will come a time when both of us will do it.

**Q. In a recent interview, Kristian said his 8-year-old daughter, Camille, knows all of Jennifer's parts and she's ready to take over when she grows up.**

**A.** Good. That's good to know. She is a beautiful little girl and quite talented, and I think she would be perfect. I would be honored if she did.

## Woman who feels lonely needs to get up and go

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



*Dear Abby*

**DEAR ABBY:** "Little Bit Lonely" (March 26) misses traveling since her husband's death. She wrote that she isn't "good at mingling with new people" and wondered if it would be appropriate to ask her son to include her on weekend trips with his family.

I want to urge "Lonely" to go to her local community college and take classes for seniors. Take any class she might have dreamed of as a young woman. Make friends. Expand her horizons!

I had breast cancer 18 months ago. The day after my surgery, I took stock of my life and decided if I was to follow my childhood dream, what better time than now? I am doing that, and have begun studying voice and theater arts. Do I aspire to be another Helen Reddy or Helen Mirren? No, but I intend to have fun while I take the journey of the rest of my life.

Let me say to her, "Don't be a 'little bit lonely.' Be a little bit too busy!"

NOT AT ALL LONELY, SANTA ROSA, CALIF.

**DEAR NOT LONELY:** Thank you for an inspiring letter. Other readers shared creative ideas for "Lonely" that might help her set her sails in new directions. Read on:

**DEAR ABBY:** "Lonely" should organize a trip (even just a weekend jaunt) and invite her son and family along. That would give the son the opportunity to reciprocate her invitation, which could lead to a new family tradition.

GAYLE IN KANSAS CITY

**DEAR ABBY:** My dad passed away eight years ago, and Mom has been on her own ever since. She has become a savvy traveler and has made numerous friends along the way. "Lonely" should look into churches, travel agencies and cruise companies for trips for senior singles. "Lonely" does not need to be alone. My mom goes places with family and is close friends with my mother-in-law, too. One or two trips, and "Lonely" should be able to find a few good friends.

PROUD OF MY BROOKLYN MOM

**DEAR ABBY:** I, too, am a widow. I go on my own to football and soccer games as well as other activities that involve my grandchildren. It's my firm belief that it isn't up to my children to entertain me. They have their own busy lives and need their family time.

I have developed my own social life. I met one of my best friends in a choral group, and another when she sat next to me at church. The three of us go to movies, concerts, plays, etc., and they have introduced me to many new activities. Senior centers sponsor computer classes, bingo and day excursions, and community colleges offer classes in photography, writing, yoga for a nominal fee. Be willing to work through some discomfort and take some risks.

NOT A BIT LONELY

**DEAR ABBY:** Here's what I'd tell "Lonely": Take a course in self-development. Programs are available for developing skills and learning to live life from the perspective of "possibilities."

Do something for someone in a nursing home or visit Alzheimer's patients. Read to them or just hold a hand. When you get a smile from these patients, you'll know your presence really makes a difference. Join the Red Hat Society. Most of the members are alone and have a great time together.

Volunteer at church, teach Sunday school, work with the homeless in a shelter. Do something for someone who has less. Our world needs people with warm hearts and the time to contribute. You will be amazed at how great you'll feel.

LORRAINE IN ENCINITAS, CALIF.

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)*

## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### Cosby tells Alabama grads to help tornado victims

**BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP)**—Comedian Bill Cosby encouraged graduates of Birmingham's Miles College to help rebuild the tornado-ravaged communities in Alabama. Cosby told the graduates Saturday to look for ways to help the survivors of the April 27 storms that killed more than 200 people across the state. He said the graduates need to "work it, rebuild it." He told the 207-member graduating class: "This is Alabama. This is you." Cosby spent Friday touring

the damage with college president George French and other officials. He also received an honorary doctorate from the historically black college.

### 9/11 tribute to open PBS' Memorial Day concert

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—A tribute to the victims of the Sept. 11 terror attacks will open the 27th annual PBS National Memorial Day Concert on the Capitol lawn in Washington. Organizers said in a statement that the segment would remember "those who

lost their lives that day, and their loved ones, and commemorating the heroism of the firemen and policemen who first responded." The event will also continue the tradition of honoring soldiers and their families. "CSI: New York" star Gary Sinise and "Criminal Minds" star Joe Mantegna will host the event, which will also feature performances and appearances by "American Idol" finalist Pia Toscano, eighth season "Idol" champion Kris Allen, "Criminal Minds: Suspect Behavior" star Forest Whitaker and gospel singer Yolanda Adams. PBS will broadcast the concert live May 29.



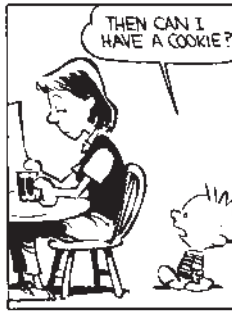
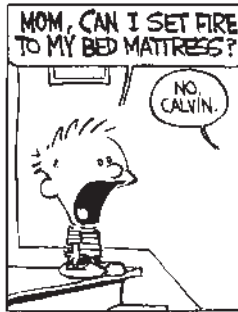
# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis

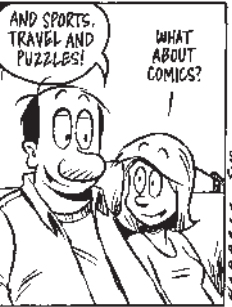


## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Musical ending

5 Grand story

9 That girl

12 German city, once a capital

13 "Finding Nemo" fish

14 Embrace

15 "Hurry up!"

17 Palin-dromic title

18 Weak, as an excuse

19 Un-dressed

21 Moderate yellow-brown

24 Unembellished

25 Legal wrong

26 Served

30 Hearty brew

31 Trombone section

32 — budget

33 Lounge chair part

35 Rams' fans?

**DOWN**

1 Courier's network

2 Reaction to

3 "CSI" evidence

4 Short sock

5 Dutch cheese

6 Mast

7 Anger

8 Young swans

9 Ship's crew's rehearsal

10 Ginormous

11 "Zounds!"

16 Listener

20 Exist

21 Nevada neighbor

22 Double agent

23 Categorization

24 Atomizer output

26 Small songbird

27 Small batteries

28 Singles

29 Famed political cartoonist

31 Prickly shrub

34 Sandra or Ruby

35 Poor substitute

37 "A mouse!"

38 Halloween cover-up

39 Curved molding

40 Give temporarily

41 Uncomplicated

44 Scarlet

45 Falsehood

46 Historic time

47 Solidify

**Solution time: 21 mins.**

MAIL	OBI	PEND
IGNITION	ALOE	
LANCER	LOT	TATA
HAY	EARNED	
UZBEK	TRIO	
MIEN	SANDLOT	
PTA	APRES	VAT
INK	BLIT	LUKE
AL	IT	WOMEN
RECREAT	SAG	
UVFA	POIYGIOT	
SENT	EROSIONS	
TREE	ABE	ALEE

Yesterday's answer 5-10

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Keanu Thompson, 33; Jason Brooks, 45; Bono, 51; Donovan, 65

**Happy Birthday:** Don't give in to pressure. Question what you hear and analyze every situation you face. A secret matter may entice you but can also cause you to neglect what needs to be done. Be discerning in order to move ahead. Your numbers are 3, 14, 17, 23, 28, 35, 41

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Getting along with everyone you encounter, personally and professionally, will assure that you are in the running for a position you want to acquire. Face any adversity with intelligence, fairness and compromise. Love is on the rise. ★★★★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** You'll be tempted to overspend on entertainment, luxury items or products that promise the impossible. Do your research and protect your assets. Someone who shows an interest in you may have ulterior motives. ★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Organize your space or entertain people you enjoy spending time with. The more time spent discussing and sharing your personal plans for the future, the closer you will be to turning what you want to do into a reality. ★★★★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Take time to listen to what others have to say. Changes at home will create unexpected problems. Have the facts to deal with each matter separately. The past may come back to haunt you if you don't do sufficient research. ★★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Emotions will be strong but also helpful when it comes to expressing the way you feel. Uncer-

tainty will bring about change. Stay on top of whatever situation you face and you will come out the victor. ★★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Someone may try to take over when it's important that you stay in control and represent your way of thinking and what you'd like to see happen. Don't be afraid to put a little pressure on your peers, co-workers or family to help you get ahead. ★★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Getting involved in something you feel strongly about will bring you in contact with someone who shares your concerns and who has lots to offer. Interacting with people who can offer knowledge, experience and motivation will lead to overdue changes. ★★★★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Work hard and stay on top of what you are doing or someone will try to derail your plans and upset your day. There are financial and professional gains to be made but only if you move along at a steady pace and avoid controversy. ★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Relying on someone else will disappoint you. Empty promises will be based on what someone thinks you want to hear. Focus on gathering the skills and knowledge required to obtain a position where you will excel. ★★★★★

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Take a wait and see attitude and you will avoid someone trying to strong-arm you into doing something you don't want to do. Remain calm and observant and, when the dust settles, you will be in a position to

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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make your move. ★★★

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Your emotions will be tested and affairs of the heart will be impossible to ignore. Look at your options and consider what you can do in order to use your skills and attributes to get ahead. Past experience and a personal relationship will help you. ★★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Don't share your secrets. Even if you think you can trust the people around you, a secret agenda is apparent that can lead to a false sense of security. Prepare to go it alone. Check out job opportunities that will allow you to use your best attributes. ★★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are stubborn, expressive and show great resolve when faced with a challenge. You are competitive and eagerly display what you have to offer.

Eugenia's Web sites: [eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com) for confidential consultations, [eugenialast.com/blog/](http://eugenialast.com/blog/) for Eugenia's blog and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

	5	1		4			7		
			6		8	5			
					9		6	3	
6		4	7						
		2				9			
						2	3		8
	9	5		2					
			9	1		4			
4			7		2	8			

Difficulty Level ★★

5/10

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Monday's SUDOKU Answer

5	2	1	4	3	7	9	8	6
4	8	7	6	5	9	1	3	2
6	3	9	1	8	2	5	7	4
3	1	4	5	6	8	7	2	9
7	6	5	2	9	1	3	4	8
8	9	2	3	7	4	6	5	1
9	5	3	8	4	6	2	1	7
1	4	6	7	2	3	8	9	5
2	7	8	9	1	5	4	6	3

Difficulty Level ★

5/09

## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

SAN FRANCISCO CABLE CARS

Solution: 8 letters

G	K	F	H	I	E	D	Y	H	L	L	E	W	O	P
R	R	T	E	E	R	T	S	T	E	K	R	A	M	
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H	G	I	E	A	E	L	E	V	E	R	S	N	O	O
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# Mavs eliminate Lakers, sweep Jackson to retirement



**DALLAS (AP)**—Phil Jackson walked off the court with a tight smile, shaking hands and accepting congratulations like he has after so many series-ending playoff games. Never like this, though.

His team didn't win; they were crushed. Swept, too.

And he wasn't just heading to the offseason—he's calling it a career, ending the most successful run by any coach in NBA history.

Jason Terry and the Dallas Mavericks ended Jackson's tenure, and the Lakers' reign as two-time champions, with a 122-86 victory Sunday. After two tight finishes and another game that was relatively close, the Mavs turned this one into a rout in the second quarter.

With Terry leading the way, Dallas hit a barrage of 3-pointers to go ahead by 24 points at halftime. When he made 3s on consecutive possessions early in the third quarter, Los Angeles knew it wasn't going to come back in this game or the series.

Things got ugly early in the fourth quarter, with vicious, frustration-fueled cheap shots by Lamar Odom and Andrew Bynum getting them ejected 45 seconds apart. But at game's end, Dallas coaches, players and team owner Mark Cuban lined up to bid farewell to the Zen Master.

"It's been a wonderful run," Jackson said.

The 65-year-old Jackson has retired before, but he insists it's for good this time. While he goes out with the sour taste of his first sweep in 21 postseasons, and his second-widest margin of defeat, it can't override all the sweet days.

A Hall of Famer since 2007, he leaves with a record 11 titles, and only 10 series losses. Take away Red Auerbach, who won nine championships, and Jackson won more titles than any two coaches combined. He won six championships with Michael Jordan, three with Kobe Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal, and the last two with Bryant leading the way.

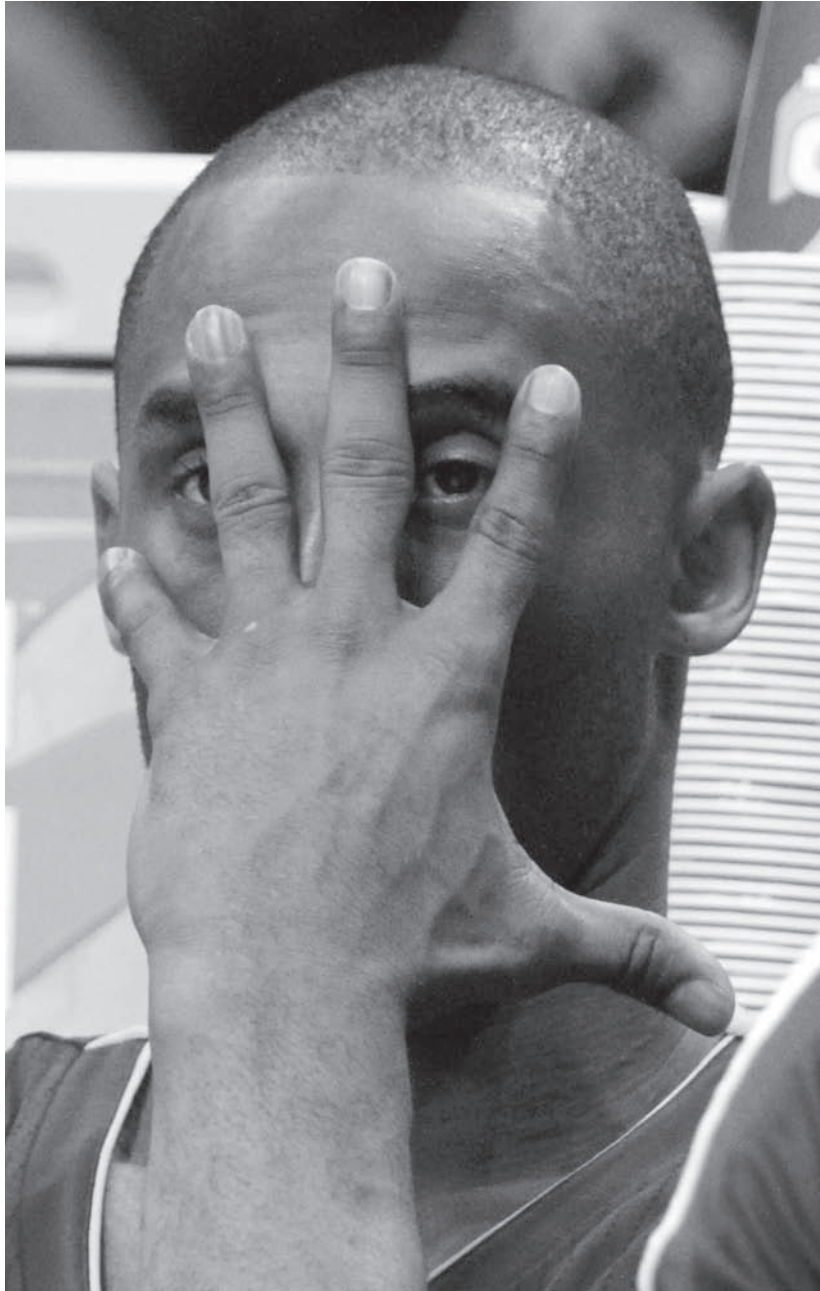
He had to be talked into coming back this year. The lure of chasing a 12th title, bundled neatly as four three-peats, did it, but he knew it would be tough with a team worn down by three straight years of reaching the finals.

"(That) puts a lot of strain on the basketball club from all angles: personalities, spiritually, physically, emotionally, and getting charged up for game after game and assault after assault when you go in and play a team," Jackson said. "It was a challenge bigger than we could beat this year."

Four of Jackson's five kids flew to Dallas for this game, in case it was the end. On Saturday, Jackson called that "a drag that I don't need," but by Sunday afternoon he was probably happy to have them around. They sat near the Lakers bench, wearing yellow hats with Roman numerals marking his 10th and 11th championships.

Then there was his extended family—his coaches and players, especially Bryant.

"I grew up under him," Bryant said. "The way I approach things, the way I think about things—not only basketball, life in general—comes from him. It's a little weird for me to think of what next year is going to be like."



Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant sits on the bench during the second half against the Dallas Mavericks in Game 4 of a second-round NBA playoff basketball series, Sunday, May 8, 2011, in Dallas.

Assistant Brian Shaw, a former Lakers player, is considered a front-runner to take over. The bigger decisions for general manager Mitch Kupchak will be how to surround Bryant. He may want a younger point guard than Derek Fisher, who turns 37 before next season, and he may consider breaking up his tandem of 7-footers, Bynum and Pau Gasol.

"We all know they always come back and get themselves back in the race," Jackson said. "The Lakers are going to survive."

For Dirk Nowitzki and the Mavs, clearing this hurdle sets them up for a chance to redeem themselves for flopping during the 2006 NBA finals and for flaming out in every postseason since. That's why when this game ended, confetti didn't fall; the organization's bigger goal is reaching the finals and winning its first championship.

They're halfway there, having won a franchise-record six straight playoff games, a streak that began right after they blew a 23-point lead in Game 4 of their first-round series against Portland.

"The job is not finished," Terry said. Dallas will host either Oklahoma City or Memphis in the conference finals. The Grizzlies lead the Thunder 2-1 going into Game 4 on Monday night. The next round likely won't start before next Sunday, a layoff that could pay huge dividends for a roster filled with players in their 30s.

Then again, they might want to keep playing the way they're going.

Terry tied a playoff record with nine

3-pointers, and the club matched NBA postseason marks with 11 3s in the first half and 20 for the game. Dallas made 63 percent of its shots from behind the arc (20 of 32) and 60 percent of its field goals (44 of 73).

"I don't think I've seen a team play to that level in a series in a game like they played this afternoon," Jackson said. "You'd like to have an opportunity to challenge, but we didn't."

Terry made 11 of 14 shots for 32 points. J.J. Barea set a career playoff-best with 22 points and Peja Stojakovic added 21 points. All three of those guys come off the bench.

"We've been doing it by committee all year long," said Nowitzki, who scored 17 points, his fewest this postseason. "There are a lot of guys who can make plays and make shots when it counts."

Nowitzki was still in during the fourth quarter and took the blindside blow that led to Odom's ejection. Then Barea took a Bynum elbow to the 'M' on his Mavericks jersey while up in the air after releasing the ball for a layup. Fans threw things toward the court and officials scrambled to keep the peace. Bynum took off his jersey and was escorted to the locker room by Ron Artest, of all people. Artest was suspended from Game 3 because of his shot on Barea in the closing seconds of Game 2.

"I wasn't happy with the way our players exited the game, on Lamar and Andrew's part," Jackson said. "It was unnecessary, but I know they were frustrated."

The Lakers blew big, late leads in Games 1 and 3, and came in talking about cleaning up their fourth-quarter performance. They never got that far.

The second quarter proved to be one of the most spectacular in Mavericks history, thanks mostly to Terry.

He was 5 of 6 from behind the arc that period, and the team was 7 of 8—despite Jackson's repeated demands that his players run at them to try forcing them to dribble up for 2-pointers instead of 3s. The Mavericks had a run of 13-2 early in the quarter and 10-1 spurt at the end.

Bryant couldn't bail his club out. He made only 1 of 5 shots in the period and had two turnovers. His only basket came after shoving Barea away from him; the pesky little point guard got even right away, driving straight to the rim for a layup.

Bryant finished 7 of 18 for 17 points. Shannon Brown was Los Angeles' next-best scorer with 15. Pau Gasol's lost postseason continued, too; he had 10 points and eight rebounds.

## Hawks 100, Bulls 88

In Atlanta, Josh Smith seemed to do it all. He attacked the basket. He defended. He rebounded. He made brilliant passes. He even won a crucial jump ball against a taller player.

There was only one thing Smith didn't do—park himself on the outside, putting up shots beyond his range.

The Atlanta Hawks were just fine with that.

Smith answered his critics with a huge game—23 points, 16 rebounds and eight assists—and fill-in Jeff Teague came up with the Derrick Rose-like plays down the stretch to lead the Hawks past the Chicago Bulls 100-88 Sunday night, evening the Eastern Conference semifinals at two games apiece.

The Hawks snapped a nine-game home losing streak in the second round, their misery dating to a May 13, 1996, win against Orlando.

Smith is frequently criticized by Atlanta fans for his inconsistent play. He heard nothing but cheers in this one, largely staying away from the jumpers, dominating on the inside and finding the open man.

"We're always trying to stay in his ear, but obviously when he's going to the basket and making it easy for himself, we just try to keep encouraging him," teammate Joe Johnson said. "He was All-Star caliber. When he's playing like that, it's almost impossible for a team to beat us."

Smith said he's not worried about those who boo him in his own hometown, who feel he's never quite lived up to his enormous potential even though he's still just 25 years old.

"There are people who don't understand the game, who don't know the game. That doesn't faze me," he said. "My teammates matter more than anybody else. They believe in me. They have confidence in my game. When I was in my rut, they told me to stay positive, to stay in the game, just do what I'd been doing all season long. I stayed with it and had the game I had tonight."

Teague has been a huge surprise filling in for injured Kirk Hinrich, directing the team with the poise of a veteran instead of someone who

played infrequently during the regular season and first round of the playoffs. He scored 12 points and doled out four assists, putting the capper on a late 10-0 run that broke open a game that had been tight and intense all the way.

"He's playing great," said Hinrich, who's watched this entire series in dress suits because of a hamstring injury. "Obviously he has ability. He's fast. He's good at finishing up around the rim."

Driving toward the hoop with Kyle Korver draped all over him, Teague flipped up a shot as he was falling down. It banked in, giving the Hawks a safe lead, 94-84, with 1:26 remaining. The second-year player bounced off the court with a big smile, bumping his teammates on the way to the bench.

Someone held up a sign, "M-V-Teague."

The actual MVP scored 34 points. But Rose needed 32 shots to do it, and he wasn't nearly as effective as he was in scoring a career-best 44 points in Game 3, leading the Bulls to a 99-82 rout that restored Chicago's home-court advantage. The top-seeded Bulls can still close out the series simply by winning at home, but the Hawks know they'll get at least one more home game.

"Game 6 tickets are on sale now," the Hawks public-address announcer said.

Leading 90-84, the Hawks caught a break when referee Bennett Salvatore blew an inadvertent whistle as Rose was shooting. He thought it was a foul. Salvatore ruled a jump. The 6-foot-9 Smith leaped high to tip it away from 6-11 Joakim Noah, giving the Hawks possession.

"I blew my whistle and didn't mean to," Salvatore said. "I didn't think it was a foul. Having watched the replay after the game, it was a foul and I should have called it. I made a mistake."

After an embarrassing performance two nights earlier, the Hawks changed up their lineup. They had been dominated on the boards in the two previous games, so they went back to a bigger lineup that worked so well against Dwight Howard and Orlando in the opening round.

Seven-footer Jason Collins started at center between Al Horford and Smith, putting Marvin Williams in a reserve role. Collins had a couple of early dunks, but he wound up playing less than 12 minutes.

More significant was the way Atlanta changed up its defense on Rose, charging at him with double-teams—even a few triple-teams—whenever it looked as though he was about to make a move toward the hoop.

No one stops Rose completely, of course. He still had plenty of moves for the highlight film, including a soaring dunk of his own miss when no one blocked him out early on.

But down the stretch, the Hawks clamped down on the Chicago star. Rose tied it at 84 on a drive with 4 1/2 minutes to go, but he missed his next shot, then turned it over twice before making a late basket that didn't matter. He finished 12 of 32 from the field.

"It was a tough game but no excuses," Rose said. "Put this game on me. Two turnovers at the end of the game."



# Glover wins for 1st time since '09 US Open



## WELLS FARGO CHAMPIONSHIP

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Lucas Glover figures he has played more than 100 rounds with Jonathan Byrd, from junior golf when they were teenagers to their years together at Clemson and nearly a decade on the PGA Tour.

The stakes were never as high as they were Sunday in the Wells Fargo Championship.

Glover was never better.

Clinging to a one-shot lead, Glover closed with three gutsy pars of the brutal finishing stretch at Quail Hollow, slamming his fist when he made the last one from 7 feet for a 3-under 69 and what looked to be a sure win. Then came Byrd, with two great pars of his own, followed by a shot into 15 feet that he made for birdie on the 18th for a 72 to force a playoff.

Glover wound up a winner with a par on the first extra hole, ending a drought of 41 tournaments that stretched nearly two years back to his U.S. Open win at Bethpage Black in 2009.

It was the eighth playoff this year on the PGA Tour, and the third in a row.

"I'm elated," Glover said. "Any time you win, you're pleased. It means you beat everybody. You did what you set



Lucas Glover, left, gets a hug from his mother, Hershey Glover, after winning the Wells Fargo Championship golf tournament at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte, N.C., Sunday, May 8, 2011. AP

out to do on Thursday morning when the bell rang. Against this field and on this golf course and in a tournament of this magnitude, I'm thrilled."

And against one of his best friends?

That might have helped. Glover, in his first PGA Tour playoff, felt a sense of calmness playing against Byrd, who had won his last two tournaments in extra holes. And it showed.

In regulation, Glover hooked

his tee shot so far left that it settled under a spectator. He was given a drop, then watched the ball roll down the bank toward the stream as he got ready to hit it. Because he never grounded his club—that was his plan, given the lie on a side of a steep hill—he played the next shot without penalty.

"Better stance, worse lie," he said.

He managed a 6-iron just over the green, hit the most difficult chip he had all day to 7 feet and

escaped with another par. In the playoff, however, Glover striped his tee shot down the middle and two-putted from 25 feet.

Byrd, who went from a fairway bunker to the hazard left the green—just short of the stream—hit a difficult chip 25 by the hole and wound up with a bogey.

"I'm a little disappointed just because you're here to win," Byrd said. "You love to compete, especially when you get in a playoff. You birdie the last,

you feel like, 'Hey, this is just going to work out.'

"If I couldn't win, I couldn't pick anybody else I'd want to win other than Lucas, so I'm very happy for him."

Glover, who finished on 15-under 273, became the first player in the nine-year history of the tournament to post all four rounds in the 60s. He never would have seen this coming.

He has been going through a divorce the past several months—"I'll probably leave that over there, if it's all right," he said, declined to comment on his personal life—and had only one top 10 over the last year. He missed the cut in his last three events and didn't have much confidence when he showed up at Quail Hollow.

But he figured out Tuesday on the range that the club wasn't square, it felt better Wednesday in the pro-am and off he went. This wasn't the U.S. Open, although the way he was tested over the final hour of a wild day, it felt just as difficult.

Rory Sabbatini, who closed with a 65 and was 13-under 131 on the weekend, wound up alone in third and will move into the top 50 of the world. Now he has to stay there for two more weeks to be exempt for the U.S. Open.

Bill Haas had a 70 to finish alone in fourth. Pat Perez, who set a tournament record with 26 birdies, had an outside chance at winning until closing with three straight bogeys to tie for sixth.

"It just proves that I can't close, so I'm pretty confident on that," Perez said, blunt as ever. "You're never going to win if you play like I did today. That's just terrible. Embarrassing."

Glover was four shots behind when he made his move by chipping in for birdie on the eighth and holing a 30-foot eagle on the 10th that gave him the outright lead that he never lost the rest of the way.

Then came a wild ride—bogey-birdie-bogey-birdie—that brought him to the treacherous finish. He saved par from well behind the 16th green. He two-putted from just under 100 feet on the 17th, making a 6-footer for par, then escaped No. 18 with the biggest par of all.

"With a one-shot lead, those three holes you've got to execute," Glover said. "Did I execute the full swing? Who's to say? But I executed my short game, and I made my putts."

Byrd was back on the tee when he heard the roar of Glover's par, knowing he needed birdie.

Glover all but predicted he would.

They had joked before the third round that they would be paired together on Sunday late in the afternoon. They probably didn't have this late in mind.

"I said, 'Why don't we plan on seeing each other tomorrow around 2—and it was 6,'" Glover said. "I think that may be why I knew he was going to make birdie on 18."

## Jeter homers twice in Yankees' 12-5 win at Texas



ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)—Derek Jeter homered twice after going 62 games without a long ball and Curtis Granderson went deep again as the New York Yankees beat the Texas Rangers 12-5 Sunday despite an erratic outing by CC Sabathia.

Jeter had gone 259 at-bats without a homer since last Aug. 24 before leading off the fifth with a liner that barely cleared the eight-foot wall into the Rangers' bullpen in right-center.

Jeter didn't wait long for his next homer, leading off the seventh against Arthur Rhodes (1-2) with a deeper shot into the bullpen to break a 4-all tie.

### Angels 6, Indians 5

At Anaheim, California, Peter Bourjos drove in the tying run in the eighth inning with an infield single, Erick Aybar followed with a two-run double and Los Angeles beat Cleveland to give Mike Scioscia his 1,000th victory as a major league manager.

Angels reliever Fernando Rodney (2-1) got credit for the win, despite blowing a 3-2 lead for Dan Haren in the top of the eighth. Travis Hafner had an RBI infield hit and Orlando Cabrera a run-scoring fielder's choice.

### Red Sox 9, Twins 5

At Boston, Adrian Gonzalez homered, Kevin Youkilis scored four runs and Daisuke Matsuzaka settled down to pitch six innings after a rough first, leading Boston over Minnesota.

Jacoby Ellsbury had three hits and extended his hitting streak to 17 games. Gonzalez, J.D. Drew and Jed Lowrie each drove in two runs for the Red Sox.

### Tigers 5, Blue Jays 2

At Toronto, Brad Penny pitched well into the

eighth inning as Detroit followed Justin Verlander's no-hitter by beating Toronto.

Austin Jackson hit a tiebreaking home run, Jose Valverde struck out the side in the ninth for seventh save and the 200th of his career, becoming the 41st player in major league history to reach the mark.

### Rays 5, Orioles 3

At Baltimore, B.J. Upton drove in four runs as Tampa Bay beat Baltimore for a three-game sweep.

Matt Joyce hit two doubles and scored twice for the Rays, who set a single-season franchise record with their eighth consecutive road win. Tampa Bay is 20-8 overall since starting the season with six straight defeats, including three at home against the Orioles to open the season.

### Athletics 5, Royals 2

At Kansas City, Kevin Kousseroff and Kurt Suzuki each homered for Oakland and Conor Jackson collected three hits to help Tyson Ross win his first game in four starts.

Ross (2-2), who moved into the rotation last month when Dallas Braden went on the disabled list, went six innings and gave up two runs on six hits, with three walks and four strikeouts. He has not allowed a home run in 28 2-3 innings.

### White Sox 5, Mariners 2

At Seattle, Paul Konerko returned to the White Sox lineup and equaled his career high with five hits, including a single in the 10th inning that helped Chicago beat Seattle.

Alexei Ramirez drove in the go-ahead run with a double to the left-center field gap.

Konerko was lifted for a pinch-hitter Saturday night because of stiffness in his left wrist.

He went 5 for 5 and raised his batting average from .295 to .323.

### Marlins 8, Nationals 0

At Miami, Anibal Sanchez took a no-hitter into the seventh inning and struck out a career-high 11 batters to help the Florida Marlins salvage the final game of their series against the Washington Nationals.

Washington's first hit came on the 101st pitch from Sanchez, when Laynce Nix led off the seventh with a line single to right, just beyond the reach of a diving Mike Stanton.

### Braves 5, Phillies 2

At Philadelphia, Jair Jurrjens pitched neatly into the seventh inning and Atlanta got home runs from Freddie Freeman, Alex Gonzalez and pinch-hitter Eric Hinske to beat Philadelphia.

Jurrjens (4-0) allowed one run and eight hits in 6 1-3 innings to outduel Cole Hamels. Jurrjens hasn't allowed more than two earned runs in any start, and has a 1.50 ERA.

### Reds 2, Cubs 0

At Chicago, Johnny Cueto was strong in his season debut, allowing five hits and pitching into the seventh for Cincinnati.

Drew Stubbs hit his sixth homer for the Reds and Cueto (1-0), who was activated off the disabled list before the game, won a pitcher's duel with Ryan Dempster (1-4).

### Giants 3, Rockies 0

At San Francisco, Ryan Vogelsong and two relievers combined on a three-hitter as San Francisco its completed their first series sweep of the season.

Cody Ross homered and drove in all three runs to help the defending World Series champions

beat the Rockies for the third straight day and pull within a game of the NL West leaders.

### Cardinals 3, Brewers 1

At St. Louis, unbeaten Kyle McClellan worked into the ninth inning to become the National League's third five-game winner and the Cardinals' bullpen labored to get the final three outs.

Colby Rasmus had a two-run double and Tyler Greene matched his career best with three hits for the NL Central-leading Cardinals.

### Dodgers 4, Mets 2

At New York, Andre Ethier got back on track with a two-run homer and Clayton Kershaw struck out eight as struggling Los Angeles snapped a four-game losing streak.

Ethier also singled after going 0 for 4 on Saturday night to end his 30-game hitting streak.

Kershaw (4-3) gave up one run on six hits and three walks in 6 2-3 innings to give the Dodgers a much-needed lift after they had lost six of seven.

### Pirates 5, Astros 4

At Pittsburgh, Ryan Doumit hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning as Pittsburgh improved to .500 this late in a season for the first time in six years.

Doumit's drive to left off Fernando Abad (1-3) was his third homer of the season. The Pirates have won five of seven and are 17-17.

### Padres 4, Diamondbacks 3

At San Diego, Jorge Cantu hit a three-run homer and Aaron Harang pitched seven solid innings to lead San Diego past Arizona.

Cantu, hitting .184 coming into the game, homered in the first to cap a four-run burst.

The Padres, who were shut out for a major league-high eighth time Saturday night, came out swinging against Joe Saunders (0-4).



# Memorial Day Softball Tourney meeting today

By **WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND**  
walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



The Pohnpei Amateur Softball League is holding a coaches and team representatives meeting at the pavilion behind the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium at 6:30pm today for in-

terested participants in this year's 4th Annual Memorial Day Softball Tournament.

The event is set to take place from May 27 to May 29 at the Capital Hill Ballfield and is dedicated, "In honor of our fallen soldiers and service men and women."

A total of 14 teams, including up to five teams from Guam, are

expected for this event.

The tournament offers both men and women's divisions with rosters set at a 16-player maximum. Whether a men or women's group, teams will be accepted on a first-come, first-pay basis.

The entrance fee is \$175 per team and trophies will be awarded to the Top 3 place

finishers in both divisions. The tourney follows a double-elimination format.

Notably, the matches are set to go down rain or shine as league organizers plan on concluding the event by May 29 to allow the group to attend Monday's commemoration ceremony to be held at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery in Marpi.

In addition, proceeds from the tournament are being considered to various charities, but specifics have not yet been confirmed.

Organizers also plan on offering meal accommodations to off-island participants.

Moreover, the general public and food vendors are all welcome to drop by and attend the family oriented weekend-long event.

Teams are encouraged to acquire their own sponsorships, however any interested potential sponsors will be greatly appreciated to help the event's goodwill cause.

For more information, contact Frank Shiro at 287-3732, Tony Luzama at 256-0141, or PASL president Alcantro Sarapio at 483-9118.

## Soriano, Nelves win last two qualifiers



Jerry Soriano and Bryan Nelves prevailed in the last two qualifying events for the VFW Post 3457 Battle of Champions 9-Ball Tournament.

Soriano won the April 30 qualifier, while Nelves topped the May 7 trial to join the 16 players who will compete in the Battle of Champions this Sunday at the VFW Post 3457. Entry fee for the culminating tournament

is only \$15 and cash prizes await the Top 4 finishers. Pool stick and gift certificates will also be awarded. Games start at 4pm.

Nelves was the latest player to qualify for this weekend's championship round after beat-

ing Rico Montano in the finals. Nelves was undefeated in the double-elimination tournament to top the 10-player field. He drew a bye in the first round and then downed Taylor Watanabe to advance to the quarterfinals of the winner's bracket. In the quarterfinals, Nelves edged Montano to march to the semis where the

former surpassed Eugene Borja for the first finals berth.

Montano dropped to the loser's bracket and had to win over Butch Pangelinan and Borja to arrange a rematch against Nelves.

In the April 30 qualifier, Montano also fell short when he bowed to Soriano in the finals.

Soriano had a bye in the first round and defeated Borja and Simon Kapileo to make it to the winner's bracket semis. In the semifinals, Soriano thumped Patrick Cepeda to move into the finals. In the loser's bracket semis, Cepeda faltered anew when he lost to Montano. **(Rose-lyn B. Monroy)**

## HOPWOOD

From Page 28

the next three places was close with eventual runner-up Tinian managing 54 points, MBA finishing third with its 52 markers, and SCS settling for fourth with its 50 points. SIS had 36 points and came in at fifth.

The Hilitai won seven of the 11 events in the boys U14. Giving Hopwood first place finishes were John Babauta (100m and 200m run and long jump), Jesus Rabauliman (javelin throw), Mii

Tekopua (discus throw and shotput), and Rex Xu (high jump).

In the U18 competition, the Dolphins were runaway winners, notching 211 and 198 points in the boys and girls divisions, respectively.

In the boys division, MHS won by 160 points over second placer Tinian High School, which only managed 51 points. Kagman and Saipan Southern High School were tied for third with 22 points apiece. SIS and MBA also joined the competition and collected 14 and 10 points, respectively.

The Dolphins topped eight of

13 events in the boys U18 and had several Top 3 finishes in various events. Jim Lacsina won the 100m race, Beouch Ngirchongor ruled the 800m and 3,000m runs, Michael Mancao prevailed in the 1,500m race, Ryan Ichihara reigned in the long jump, and Greg Duatin dominated the high jump. The Dolphins also finished first in the 4x100m and 4x400m relay races.

In the girls U18, Rachel Abrams and Lia Rangamar won three individual events each to lift the Lady Dolphins to a comfortable victory against Kagman High School (72), Tinian High

School (15), and MBA (12).

As expected, Abrams sprinted to wins in the 100m and 200m races and added the high jump gold medal to her collection. Not to be outdone was Rangamar, who won in the long jump and javelin and discus throws.

Also contributing to the Lady Dolphins' cause were Reylynn Sapong (400m and 1,500m), Lina Manalili (800m), Jeralyn Castillo (3,000m), and Rita Del Avellano (shotput). The Lady Dolphins completed a sweep in the girls U18 events when they ruled the 4x400m and 4x100m relay races.

girls 1,500m race.

Meanwhile, NMA would like to thank McDonald's, Public School System, all the public and private schools on Saipan and Tinian, the coaches, parents, and volunteers for ensuring the success of the annual competition.

## BAREFOOT

From Page 28

girls U14 competition.

Marianas Baptist Academy coach Ramir Trinidad also had students running barefoot during the weekend races and he

said he advised them to use shoes, but they begged off.

"They asked if they can do the races without their shoes on, saying they run faster without a pair. We just reminded them to be careful and put their shoes on after the race, as we don't want them to step

on sharp objects outside the track," Trinidad said.

Trinidad's wards finished first in the boys U14 4x100m relay and third in the 4x400m relay runs. The Stormz also placed second and third in the boys high jump, second in long jump, and third in the

halftime advantage.

Three minutes into the second half, it was Bir Tamang's turn to score for Matansa and then three minutes later, Chetri hit his second goal for a commanding 4-0 lead.

Shirley's avoided a shutout loss when Kenneth Domingo broke into the scoreboard in the 79th minute.

Meanwhile, action in the men's league continues tonight with Tan Holdings taking on Independents FC in a Division B game at 7pm. Then on Thursday, Inter Godfather's will meet Baek Du San in a Division A match at 7:30pm.

## WILD BILL'S

From Page 28

third minute. However, Wild Bill's came back strong in the second half, making all four goals in the last 45 minutes of the match.

Adul Detdon started the second half with his first goal in the 46th minute and then made Wild Bill's last goal in the match in the 74th minute. Also making it to the scoreboard for Wild Bill's were Jeff Elliot (52nd minute) and Jack Thoensaket (60th minute).

### MP United 3, KFAS 1

In the other Division A match, MP United defeated Korean Football Association, 3-1.

It was MP United's third straight win and five in eight games.

MP United went up at halftime, 2-0, off Jae Hyuck Jim's goals in the eighth minute and Yong Park's shot five minutes later.

Then in the second half, KFAS nailed two quick goals to force a deadlock. Jin Wook Cho scored his first goal in the 38th minute of the second half and two minutes later, he found the back of the net anew for the equalizer.

However, Tairim Ha saved

the day for MP United when he lit up the scoreboard one minute before the game ended.

### Matansa FC 4, Shirley's FC 1

In the lone Division B game, Matansa topped Shirley's, 4-1.

Matansa canned two goals apiece in the first and second half, while Shirley's managed to score only in the second frame.

Hong Tao Zhao started things out for Matansa with his goal in the 23rd minute. Dhiraj Chetri made it to the scoreboard next, finding the back of the net in the 30th minute for Matansa's 2-0

the Lady Dolphins.

In the boys division, the Manta Rays came out on top of a neck-and-neck battle with MHS.

MHS won the 1,500m prelim with a time of 9:19:14, less than two seconds ahead of Southern (9:20:60), but the Manta Rays regrouped in the 500m sprint with a 2:52:27 ahead MHS' 2:52:92 run. KHS settled for third in both prelim races with a 9:36:01 in the 1,500m and a 2:54:80 in the 500m sprint.

Southern turned it on in the finals and ran away with the 1,500m honors. They finished well ahead of the field in 9:22:49; MHS (9:36:03) came

in second and KHS again in third (9:49:40).

The Manta Rays even had enough gas in the tank to take the 500m final with a mark of 3:01:60. KHS stepped up in the end and won second place (3:02:16), while MHS (3:02:40) settled for third.

According to MISO rules five, three, two, and a point are awarded to the first, second, third, and fourth place preliminary finishers, respectively, and finals races are worth double the points, per place finisher.

The MISO outrigger season continues next Saturday at Kilili Beach with the next set of races starting at 9am.

## SOUTHERN

From Page 28

The Southern boys accrued 28 points in Saturday's races and hold a 10-point lead over Marianas High School. The Ayuyus of Kagman High School are currently in third place, with 16 points.

Notably, after coming out of the turn in last place, MCS girls came out of nowhere in the finale 500m sprint event and stole top honors with a time of 3:43:04.

Premature celebration caused the Southern girls to slow down as they approached the flag and were forced to settle for a last place finish with a time of

3:44:57. MHS girls took second with their time of 3:44:28.

Still, the Lady Manta Rays swept both the 1,500m and 500m preliminary rounds with a 1,500m time of 11:14:56 and a 3:24:56 mark in the 500m sprint. The Southern girls also took the 1,500m final with a grade of 11:21:35.

MHS girls finished second in the prelims with a 1,500m mark of 11:24:32 and a 500m sprint of 3:29:72. MCS was disqualified in the 1,500m prelim and finished the 500m sprint in 3:42:91.

MCS recovered and finished second in the girls 1,500m final with a time of 11:24:01 about six and a half seconds ahead of

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	19	13	.594	—
Tampa Bay	20	14	.588	—
Boston	16	18	.471	4
Toronto	15	19	.441	5
Baltimore	14	19	.424	5 1/2

Central Division

Cleveland	22	11	.667	—
Kansas City	18	16	.529	4 1/2
Detroit	17	18	.486	6
Minnesota	12	20	.375	9 1/2
Chicago	13	22	.371	10

West Division

Los Angeles	20	15	.571	—
Oakland	18	17	.514	2
Texas	18	17	.514	2
Seattle	16	19	.457	4

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	22	11	.667	—
Florida	20	13	.606	2
Atlanta	20	16	.556	3 1/2
Washington	16	18	.471	6 1/2
New York	15	19	.441	7 1/2

Central Division

St. Louis	20	15	.571	—
Cincinnati	18	16	.529	1 1/2
Pittsburgh	17	17	.500	2 1/2
Chicago	15	18	.455	4
Milwaukee	14	20	.412	5 1/2
Houston	13	21	.382	6 1/2

West Division

Colorado	18	14	.563	—
San Francisco	18	16	.529	1
Los Angeles	16	19	.457	3 1/2
Arizona	15	18	.455	3 1/2
San Diego	14	20	.412	5

Yesterday's Games

L.A. Dodgers 4, N.Y. Mets 2

Florida 8, Washington 0

Pittsburgh 5, Houston 4

St. Louis 3, Milwaukee 1

Cincinnati 2, Chicago Cubs 0

San Diego 4, Arizona 3

San Francisco 3, Colorado 0

Atlanta 5, Philadelphia 2

Detroit 5, Toronto 2

Boston 9, Minnesota 5

Tampa Bay 5, Baltimore 3

N.Y. Yankees 12, Texas 5

Oakland 5, Kansas City 2

L.A. Angels 6, Cleveland 5

Chicago White Sox 5, Seattle 2, 10 innings

WELLS FARGO

CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) — Scores

Sunday from the \$6.5 million Wells Fargo

Championship played at the par-72, 7,469-

yard Quail Hollow Club

Final Round

(x-won on first playoff hole)

x-Lucas Glover (500), \$1,170,000

67-68-69-69—273

Jonathan Byrd (300), \$702,000

66-68-67-72—273

Rory Sabbatini (190), \$442,000

72-71-66-65—274

Bill Haas (135), \$312,000

64-70-71-70—275

Kevin Na (110), \$260,000

69-69-67-71—276

Zach Johnson (92), \$217,750

73-69-67-68—277

Bobby Gates (92), \$217,750

69-70-69-69—277

Pat Perez (92), \$217,750

67-65-70-75—277

Phil Mickelson (66), \$150,429

69-66-74-69—278

Padraig Harrington (66), \$150,429

69-72-69-68—278

Vijay Singh (66), \$150,429

68-68-73-69—278

Robert Garrigus (66), \$150,429

72-67-70-69—278

Carl Pettersson (66), \$150,429

68-68-72-71—278

J.B. Holmes (66), \$150,429

70-72-65-71—278

Stewart Cink (66), \$150,429

71-65-68-74—278

Hunter Mahan (53), \$97,500

72-70-67-70—279

Rickie Fowler (53), \$97,500

72-62-68-71—279

Davis Love III (53), \$97,500

69-72-69-68—279

Brian Davis (53), \$97,500

70-67-69-73—279

Andres Romero (53), \$97,500

71-67-67-74—279

Webb Simpson (49), \$72,800

70-67-74-69—280

Matt Jones (49), \$72,800

70-69-69-72—280

Steve Marino (49), \$72,800

70-67-71-72—280

Trevor Immelman (46), \$55,413

73-70-71-67—281

Jim Furyk (46), \$55,413

72-72-69-68—281

Tim Herron (46), \$55,413

70-69-73-69—281

David Toms (46), \$55,413

66-72-71-72—281

Edoardo Molinari (0), \$44,200

72-71-71-68—282

Tad Ridings (41), \$44,200

71-69-73-69—282

Justin Rose (41), \$44,200

71-73-69-69—282

Sergio Garcia (41), \$44,200

69-69-74-70—282

Steven Bowditch (41), \$44,200

71-68-72-71—282

John Rollins (33), \$30,171

73-68-74-68—283

J.J. Henry (33), \$30,171

73-71-70-69—283

Jason Bohn (33), \$30,171

71-67-75-70—283

D.J. Trahan (33), \$30,171

70-73-70-70—283

Kent Jones (33), \$30,171

72-70-71-70—283

Jeff Overton (33), \$30,171

70-71-71-71—283

Billy Horschel (33), \$30,171

73-66-73-71—283

Jim Herman (33), \$30,171

68-74-70-71—283

Johnson Wagner (33), \$30,171

73-71-68-71—283

John Senden (33), \$30,171

74-64-72-73—283

Ryan Moore (33), \$30,171

69-69-72-73—283

Bo Van Pelt (33), \$30,171

71-67-72-73—283

Choe Reavie (25), \$20,150

69-73-73-69—284

Bo Weekley (25), \$20,150

71-72-71-70—284

Kyle Stanley (25), \$20,150

72-71-69-72—284

Mathew Goggin (0), \$16,157

70-74-72-69—285

Marc Leishman (20), \$16,157

73-71-71-70—285

Brendon de Jonge (20), \$16,157

75-68-71-71—285

Bubba Watson (20), \$16,157

72-68-73-72—285

Charles Warren (20), \$16,157

72-68-73-72—285

Robert Allenby (20), \$16,157

72-71-69-73—285

Alex Cejka (20), \$16,157

71-68-70-76—285

Billy Mayfair (15), \$14,755

69-73-74-70—286

Brandt Jobe (15), \$14,755

69-73-73-71—286

Brendan Steele (15), \$14,755

77-66-72-71—286

James Driscoll (15), \$14,755

74-69-71-72—286

Alex Prugh (11), \$14,300

75-68-73-71—287

Charles Howell III (11), \$14,300

73-71-71-72—287

Cameron Tringale (11), \$14,300

70-72-72-73—287

Paulin Kaymer (0), \$13,975

70-71-73-74—288

Martin Stankowski (9), \$13,975

75-69-70-74—288

Jarrod Lyle (6), \$13,585

71-71-73-74—289

Joe Ogilvie (6), \$13,585

72-71-71-75—289

Michael Thompson (6), \$13,585

73-69-70-77—289

Chris Stroud (6), \$13,585

72-71-69-77—289

Ryuji Imada (2), \$13,130

69-70-76-75—290

Jimmy Walker (2), \$13,130

75-69-71-75—290

Gary Woodland (2), \$13,130

72-71-68-79—290

Richard S. Johnson (1), \$12,870

74-69-73-77—293

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# 2011 SSC Escape from Managaha

PHOTOS By  
ROSELYN B. MONROY



Three swimmers stay in the water for a while before completing the race.



Mother and daughter Carol Lynn Calobong-Pierce, right, and Jennifer Pierce walk toward the shore hand in hand.



Lewie Tenorio smiles after completing the morning race.



SSC coach Mike Villagomez fixes his goggles after the race.



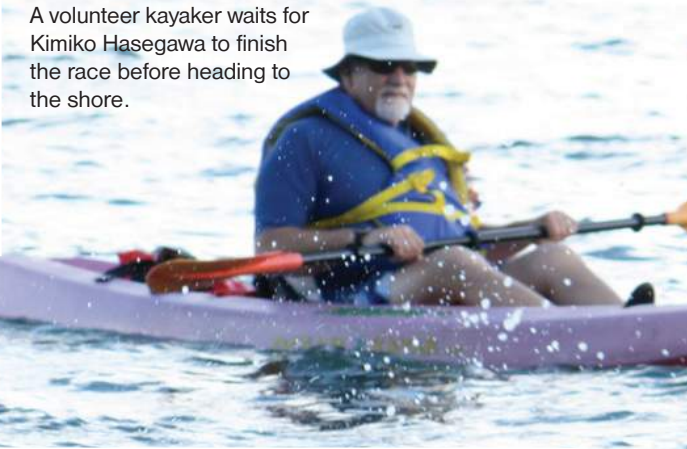
Susan Marchitti swims the last few meters of the 2.4-kilometer race.



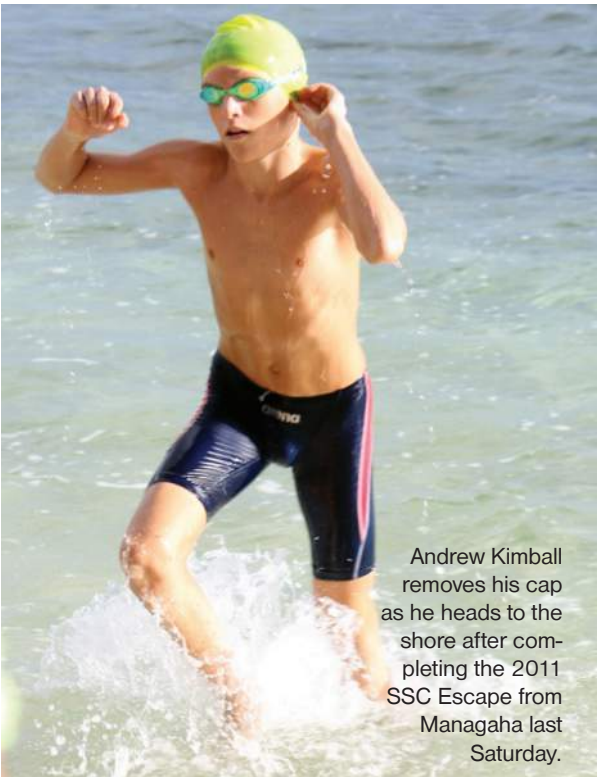
Lennosuke Suzuki heads to the shore.



A volunteer kayaker waits for Kimiko Hasegawa to finish the race before heading to the shore.



Tamio Nishido runs to the shore.



Andrew Kimball removes his cap as he heads to the shore after completing the 2011 SSC Escape from Managaha last Saturday.



Escape from Managaha first-timer Matthew Maeda moves out of the water.







**Glover wins  
for 1st time  
since '09  
US Open**

25

# Saipan Tribune Sports

**Mavs eliminate  
Lakers, sweep  
Jackson to  
retirement**

24



28 TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2011

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Hopwood, MHS deliver in All Schools

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**H**opwood Junior High School and Marianas High School lived up to expectations after dominating their respective competitions in last weekend's 2011 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships at the Oleai Sports Complex.



The Hilitai swept the girls and boys U14 championships, while the Dolphins prevailed both in the girls and boys U18 divisions. Both schools were heavily favored to win in the annual competition, as they ruled the series of qualifying tournaments for the All Schools, too.

In the girls U14 division, Hopwood earned 123 points to beat Saipan Community School (69) and Whispering Palms (65) for the championship trophy. Tinian Junior High School came in fourth with its 27 points, followed by Kagman High School (22), Saipan International School (18), and Marianas Baptist Academy (10). Points were awarded to schools based on how their students finished in the various events.

Delivering for Hopwood's girls U14 team were first placers Keolani Rios (100m and 200m runs); Alexandria Vergara (800m); Mikayla Lopez (1,500m and 3,000m); Ketruth Sebangiol (discuss); and Sonia Isaac (shotput).

In the boys U14, Hopwood was also way ahead of the pack with its 181 points. The battle for  
*See HOPWOOD on Page 26*



Four runners race barefoot during the boys U10 200m run in last Saturday's 2011 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships at the Oleai Sports Complex.

### Barefoot running becomes a fad

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Move over high-tech running shoes. Student-runners opted for barefoot running in the 2011 PSS/McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships.

"We can't do anything about it. Several students were comfortable running without their shoes on. I guess that's what made this event unique. It's island-style running," Northern Marianas Athletics developmental coach Elias Rangamar said.

"With or without shoes, we accepted the students as long as they made the grades in the qual-

ifying tournaments. We want to have as many participants as we can," Rangamar added.

Barefoot runners crossed the finish line at the Oleai Sports Complex track with ease, not minding the hot rubberized surface during the sprint and middle distance races. Some wore socks and still rounded the oval in one piece.

"I had only minor blisters, but it's okay. I love racing barefoot here at the track because I run faster," said Hopwood Junior High School's Jackie Chen, who placed third in the 400m race and joined the long jump, high jump, and 200m race.

Hopwood went on to dominate the boys and

*See BAREFOOT on Page 26*

ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

### Wild Bill's ends skid in men's league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER



Wild Bill's snapped its five-game losing skid in the NMIFA Men's Invitational Football League after stunning former leader Paire Football Club in their Division A match, 4-1, last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex.

The victory was only the second in seven games for Wild Bill's but it was enough to get the team back on track after being winless for about two months. Wild Bill's first triumph came during the opening of the league in March.

While Wild Bill's finally found a way to stop the bleed-



Wild Bill's and Paire players hit each other's foot as they battle for the ball during the first half of their Division A game in the NMIFA men's league last Sunday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

ing, Paire continued to struggle, dropping three of its last four games.

Paire seemed to boost its

chances of regaining its form when it led at the break, 1-0, off Jason Schroeder's goal in the

*See WILD BILL'S on Page 26*



The Saipan Southern High School boys outrigger crew cruises to an easy victory in the 1,500m finals race against Marianas High School and Kagman High School in last Saturday's MISO outrigger races in the waters off Kilili Beach Park.

### Southern leads outrigger standings

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND  
walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



Saipan Southern High School leads both boys and girls divisions after the first round of the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization

outrigger competition held last Saturday in the waters off Kilili Beach Park in Oleai.

The Lady Manta Rays hold a slim 24-18 lead over the Mount Carmel School Lady Knights, while the MHS Lady Dolphins are still in the mix with 16 points with three events to go.

*See SOUTHERN on Page 26*